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Funds devolution: State for changes

BENGALURU
Pitching for changes in the criteria for calculating the quantum of devolution of funds from the Centre to States, Karnataka strongly advocated addition of GSDP to the efficiency criterion and changes to the Constitution to make cesses/surcharges also part of divisible pool. » PAGE 8

Darshan shifted to Ballari prison

BENGALURU/KALABURAGI
Actor Darshan was shifted to Ballari district prison on Thursday from Parappana Agrahara Central Prison Complex. He has been lodged in a cell alone and will not be allowed to mingle with other inmates apart from those in the high-security cell.» PAGE 2

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Actor-MLA Mukesh, 6 others booked in sexual abuse cases

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI/THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala Police on Thursday registered cases against seven persons, including actor-legislator M. Mukesh, in connection with the sexual harassment allegations levelled by a woman actor in the wake of the release of the Hema Committee report.

Six cases were filed in Ernakulam district and one was registered in Thiruvananthapuram.

The first information report against Mr. Mukesh, an MLA from the ruling CPI (M), was filed under Section 376 (rape), which is a non-bailable offence, Sections 354 (assault or criminal force to women with intent to outrage her modesty), and 509 (insult the modesty of a woman by word, sound, gesture or object) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

Police personnel deployed in front of the AMMA office in Ernakulam on Thursday. H VIBHU

The District and Sessions Court, Ernakulam, directed the investigation officer on Thursday not to arrest him till September 3 after noting that there was no chance of him "fleeing from the clutches of law".

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Aviation regulator places SpiceJet under strict watch

Dubai airport refuses to check in passengers over delayed payments by airline; the DGCA plans to conduct more spot checks, night surveillance to ensure financial issues do not hit flight safety

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

India's aviation safety regulator placed SpiceJet under enhanced surveillance on a day when the cash-strapped airline's passengers were once again barred from checking in for their flights at the Dubai airport over delayed payments.

The move by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) will entail increased spot checks as well as night surveillance to ensure that the airline's poor financial health does not impact flight safety, a senior DGCA official said. He added that a special audit of the airline's engineering facilities was conducted on August 7 and 8, revealing "certain deficiencies".

On alert: The stand-off at the airport forced SpiceJet to cancel some of the flights and fly empty aircraft back to India. FILE PHOTO

The stand-off at the Dubai airport forced the airline to cancel some of the 11 flights it operates to Dubai daily, and fly empty aircraft back to India.

Industry sources said that the cancellations were due to delayed payments to ground-handling service provider Dnata, which told SpiceJet that they could either provide passenger facilitation or fuel. Since the airline wanted to utilise the aircraft for other flights as well, it decided to fly the aircraft back to India in an empty state.

"Due to operational reasons, a few SpiceJet flights from Dubai were cancelled. Affected passengers have been accommodated on subsequent SpiceJet flights, on other airlines, or provided with a full refund," SpiceJet said in a statement, adding that all its flights from Dubai were now operating as planned.

The airline's passengers at Dubai have been affected on multiple occasions in the recent past, but people in the know said these incidents had become more common over the last week. Commenting on the Thursday incident, a senior official of the Ministry of Civil Aviation said: "We are monitoring SpiceJet."

The official added that the airline was going through a "challenging time", referring to its poor financial health.

Meanwhile, SpiceJet employees are upset over the airline's failure to pay their salaries for two months.

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DKS case: No jurisdiction to decide legality, says HC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Thursday said it has no jurisdiction to decide the legality of the State government's November 28, 2023, order of withdrawing sanction granted earlier to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to probe corruption cases in Karnataka as it is a dispute between the Central and the State governments.

Only the apex court has an exclusive jurisdiction under Article 131 of the Constitution of India to decide such disputes between the State and the Centre, the High Court said.

A Division Bench comprising Justice K. Somashekar and Justice Umesh M. Adiga passed the order.

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A BG-BGE

‘When you go home with an Olympic medal, you feel proud’

Rohidas, a vital cog of the bronze-winning Indian hockey team in Paris, looks back on his red-card, the match against Spain, his three roles in the side and the journey ahead

GETTY IMAGES

INTERVIEW

Amit Rohidas

Y.B. Sarangi

Amit Rohidas, an important cog in the wheel of the Indian hockey team, played a crucial role in the side’s second successive bronze medal victory in the Paris Olympics.

Rohidas, who has improved well as a player over the years and plays a three-in-one role, was in the news when he was red-carded during India’s quarterfinal match against Great Britain in Paris.

Despite being reduced to 10 men for three quarters, India played out of its skin to beat the formidable Great Britain through penalty shoot-out, missed the suspended Rohidas in the semifinals against Germany before utilising his services again in the bronze medal match against Spain to pick up back-to-back medals in the Olympics after 52 years.

While hopping from one felicitation ceremony to another to celebrate the team’s rare success, Rohidas, hailing from Saunamara village (which also produced former India captain Dilip Tirkey) of Odisha’s hockey cradle Sundargarh district, found time to speak to *The Hindu* about his eventful journey in the French capital. Excerpts

Having been part of a side that won its second consecutive bronze medal in the Olympics, how do you look back at the Tokyo Games?

Tokyo was different. We had not won a medal for many years. It was a younger team. Some players who had competed in the Olympics earlier had shared their experience and had told us that Tokyo (held during Covid times) would be different from the previous Games.

We were determined to win a medal, no matter whether it’s first, second or third spot. We were determined to stand on the podium. We experienced a lot of ups and downs in the league and semifinal as well. But we did not give up and won the bronze medal. It was a matter of great delight for all of us.

The whole country was delighted with the revival of hockey. We were able to put hockey where it belonged, people in villages and all over the country knew about our achievement. There was a marked enthusiasm among kids (in the hockey belts) as there was increased participation in the sport. It was a great experience.

And how different was Paris?

In Paris, our motto was to change the colour of the medal, whether we finished first or second. We played well from the beginning till the end. You must have seen in the quarterfinal against Great Britain. I got a red card. We played with 10 men (for nearly three quarters) and playing an international match with 10 men is extremely difficult. When a team gets a card for two minutes or five minutes, the opponent takes the advantage of that. We played with a certain structure before I got the card. We had practised a lot on how to play with one man down.

Then we had one more player who got another card (and was temporarily suspended). Just think, in an Olympics match and against a team like Great Britain, it was really tough to defend with a man down. Every member played for others in the team, not for himself.

We were determined to not let a goal in, no matter what. We prioritised saving our home first for which we could not attack well. Finally, we won through shoot-out after a 1-1 deadlock. It was a historic moment.

After that I was suspended for one match, in the semifinal against Germany. We played well that day, got opportunities, we could have scored more goals. The team missed me during penalty (corner defence), I also missed being there out in the middle. But we prepared for the bronze medal match. Playing a bronze medal match is always difficult. It’s difficult for both the teams (to push yourself again and) after losing (the semifinals). In our meeting, we decided to forget the past and get on to the pitch with a fresh approach and rhythm as we had another medal to go for. How we would get it was up to us. We thought, ‘If we play well, then we can win it. Or else, return home empty-handed.’ So we were determined and beat Spain 2-1 and got consecutive bronze medals.

How do you see the incident because of which you were red-carded?

I did not hit him (William Calnan) intentionally. He came from behind and got hit (on his head). There was no bleeding. Had he bled, then I would have accepted a red card. Since nothing serious happened and that player played the full match, nobody accepted the decision of the third umpire.

It was debated all over the world as to why a red card was issued (to me). A yellow card would have been good enough. The punishment was much bigger (than the mistake I made). Since my teammates and the whole country backed me, I was confident and I was not morally down. And I prepared for the next match.

Did anything happen between the two of you before that incident?

Nothing happened before that incident. It just happened accidentally.

How did you feel after that?

I felt bad sitting out and watching the semifinal against Germany from the stands. I supported the team, I had full confidence in the team. We got more opportunities, but could not score enough goals. In my absence, Manpreet (Singh) performs the first rusher’s job well. He tried his best, but that day, luck was not on our side.

How different was playing under a new coach (Craig Fulton) this time?

Playing under every coach is a different experience. The current coach was an assistant coach with Belgium, the champion side in Tokyo Olympics. He is an experienced coach. Even though he worked with us for only 14-15 months, he gave his best and produced results. He made us train in the areas where we needed improvement.

How have you improved as a player and where do you want to improve?

My fighting spirit has improved in the last few years. Combination with other fellow players is at a good level. I want to continue like this in the future. I can improve in penalty corner conversion, the drag-flicking part. Otherwise, the going has been good.

Who is your idol?

Dilip Tirkey is my idol. The way he played for the country (for so long) was an achievement. His tackling, ball passing and his behaviour (towards others) are a few things about him which I like.

How do you approach your role as a first rusher while saving penalty corners?

I rush out first, block from my side, mind the possible variation (from the opposition). My experience helps. I do not fear (facing a drag-flicker). If the ball hits the stick, well and good. But sometimes it hits my legs or body. In such a scenario, there is a chance that you can pick up an injury. The (protective) equipment really helps me.

Who is the most difficult drag-flicker to face?

I don’t feel any difficulty facing different drag-flickers from various countries. I just focus on my job. We analyse the flickers through video analysis. It is important to observe how a flicker moves and how he flicks. If you study these well, then there is no problem.

You have to see whether the main flicker is at work or the second flicker is there. You have to see their set-up and do your work with composure. You have to observe, who are the pusher, stopper, main flicker and the second flicker. Then you have to defend it. We don’t know how many penalty corners the opposition is going to get, so there is no such target as to how many I need to stop. I just focus on my job no matter how many penalty corners we concede.

Of your three roles as a rusher, defender and drag-flicker, which one is your most favourite job?

I give equal priority to each one of my roles. I try to give my best to the roles I am responsible for.

How do you feel when you go home as an Olympic medal winner?

When you go home with an Olympic medal, you feel proud. No other moment can be bigger than that. Our villagers, family celebrate.

Darshan shifted to Ballari prison, to be under round-the-clock surveillance

It has been mandated that all officers who interact with the actor have to do so only wearing a bodycam

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU/KALABURAGI

Jailed actor Darshan was shifted to Ballari district prison on Thursday morning. He was shifted from Parappana Agrahara Central Prison Complex in Bengaluru, where the preferential treatment he reportedly got turned controversial, pushing the government to relocate him.

The actor, who has been allotted an undertrial prisoner number 511, has been lodged in the high-security barrack of the Ballari District Prison. He has been lodged in a cell alone and will not be allowed to mingle with other inmates apart from those in the high-security cell. The actor will also be placed under round-the-clock CCTV surveillance, even in the cell.

T.P. Shesha, Deputy Inspector General of Police (Northern Range), Prisons and Correctional Services, has written to the Superintendent of Ballari District Prison, outlining the security measures to be adopted to oversee the actor's stay in the prison.

Apart from placing him in a separate cell, prison officials have reportedly installed a CCTV camera at the cell to monitor him around the clock. A dedicated officer has been appointed to monitor Darshan and his activities and conduct daily checks and surprise checks. It has been mandated that all officers who interact with the actor have to do so only wearing a bodycam.

Actor Darshan being taken to Ballari District Prison on Thursday. SRIDHAR KAVALI

Prison officials have said that apart from the actor's blood relatives and his advocates, nobody else would be allowed to meet him, contrary to the practice at Parappana Agrahara Central Prison, where several people from the Kannada film industry met him.

Darshan moved amidst security

Earlier in the day, the actor was shifted to Ballari prison amidst high security. The police party transporting him started at 4.30 a.m. Thursday morning and reached Ballari prison at 9.55 p.m. They took the Andhra Pradesh route to avoid his fans who had gathered along the usual route through Tumakuru and Chitradurga districts. However, many fans had gathered outside Ballari prison.

Controversy broke out over the actor wearing what many said were sunglasses during his trip to Ballari. While Mr. Shesha is learnt to have written to the Chief of Prisons and Correctional Services Department seeking action against officials who allowed the actor to wear sunglasses, Dr. Shobha Rani, SP, Ballari said that the glasses were photochromatic power glasses and that prisoners were allowed to use health equipment.

Others shifted too

Meanwhile, other co-accused in the Renukaswamy murder case were also shifted to various prisons across the State on Thursday. Pawan K., Raghavendra and Nandish were moved to Mysuru jail, Jagadish to Shivamogga jail, Dhanraj D to Dharwad jail, Vinay V to Vijayapura jail, Nagaraju to Kalaburagi jail, Laxman to Shivamogga jail and Pradosh to Belagavi jail.

Chikkanna questioned

Comedy actor Chikkanna was questioned by the city police on Thursday. The actor was with Darshan and other accused at a party on June 8, just before they proceeded to a shed where Renukaswamy was allegedly killed. Chikkanna's statement was recorded and has been listed as a witness in the case. However, he recently met Darshan in prison, following which he was questioned on Thursday to check whether he was tutored or threatened by the accused.

AI model to identify and profile marine pollution developed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

City-based private company AlphaMers Ltd. has tied up with the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) Space Application Centre to develop an Artificial Intelligence (AI) model to identify and profile marine pollution, especially plastics and oils spills using remote sensing along the country's coastline.

AlphaMers Ltd. has developed and deployed floating trash barriers to capture solid waste while allowing water to flow freely. These barriers are deployed diagonally across the water to ensure that trash is carried to one end, where it can be easily recovered.

AlphaMERS has installed its proprietary technology of floating trash barriers in nine Indian cities - Gorakhpur, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Mysuru, Coimbatore, Puducherry, Chennai, Thanjavur and Tuticorin. The company said that the broad objective of the tie-up is to develop and fine tune a robust model of AI to identify and profile marine pollution.

Remote sensing images

"ISRO has a lot of remote sensing images captured from the sky by its satellites. We have a lot of our barriers in the rivers to collect plastics. When ISRO develops AI, it is based on the imagery but the algorithms they develop needs to be based on ground truth to determine whether what they are calling is plastic or not," AlphaMers Ltd. Managing Director D.C. Shekar told *The Hindu*.

BBMP to process bills for all civic works online

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has announced a new initiative aimed at simplifying and ensuring transparency in the submission and approval of bills for civic works.

All bills will be processed entirely through the Integrated Financial Management System (IFMS) software henceforth, the civic body announced on Thursday.

Currently, bill submission and approval within the BBMP are handled manually through physical files, which has often led to payment delays.

In response to concerns raised by the contractor's association and to expedite the bill payment process, BBMP has decided to fully implement the IFMS software for processing all bills.

Training provided

Through the software, contractors will be able to upload necessary documents directly via their login credentials. In cases where they are unable to upload the documents themselves, provisions will be made for relevant officials to assist them. Demo videos on how to use the software will be made available to both contractors and officials.

Additionally, online training has already been provided to BBMP officials, and there are plans to extend this training to contractors in the near future.

Shivanand Kalakeri, Special Commissioner (Finance), told *The Hindu* that the guidelines have already come into effect.

10 more stray dogs captured

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A day after an elderly woman was mauled to death, the BBMP captured 10 more stray dogs. With this, the civic body has captured a total of 16 dogs from 7th residential camp, Air Force East, Jalahalli.

Vikas Suralkar Kishor, BBMP Special Commissioner (Health), told *The Hindu*, "We have captured 16 dogs and they are currently under observation. The Animal Husbandry Department is conducting an investigation to determine which dogs attacked the woman." When asked how the body would identify them, he said there were Standard Operating Procedures and legal definitions for a ferocious dog. "The BBMP will take a final call on what needs to be done with the strays after the probe," he added.

Skin donations in Bengaluru pick up but demand still outstrips supply

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Although donations at the State's only skin bank in the government-run Victoria Hospital in Bengaluru have increased over the years, the demand still outstrips supply. The bank has been able to fulfill around 65% of the total 391 requests for skin that it received so far.

Since its inception in March 2016 when it received 18 donations, the bank has recorded a total of 227 donations so far. The donations have been used for skin grafting in a total of 242 patients so far. As of now, the bank has a stock of 8,000 sq.cm.

The bank, set up in association with Rotary Ashirvad, received requests from 391 patients for skin so far including 29 from other States. It has been able to cater to 252 patients including 26 from other States.

"Apart from all over Karnataka, we are now getting requests from neighbouring Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Odisha and Delhi too. While donations are on the rise in the last two years, the challenge is that our teams can go and harvest donor skin only in and around Bengaluru. We need to have skin harvesting teams with trained personnel in the districts with all logistics to collect skin from brain dead cases reported there, similar to a system being followed in other organ donations," Yogishwarappa C.N., Professor and Head of the Department of Plastic Surgery and Burns in Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI), told *The Hindu* on Thursday.

Since its inception in March 2016 when it received 18 donations, the State's only skin bank in the government-run Victoria Hospital in Bengaluru has recorded a total of 227 donations so far. FILE PHOTO

Skin donations and recipients

Year	No. of skin donations	No. of recipients
2016	18	7
2017	40	22
2018	33	36
2019	17	29
2020	09	9
2021	18	11
2022	40	36
2023	28	62
2024 (so far)	24	30
Total	227	242

Demand and supply

Year	Demand	Supply
2016	15	7
2017	35	22
2018	60	36
2019	50	29
2020	20	9
2021	25	11
2022	50	34
2023	84	62
2024 (so far)	52	42
Total	391	252

With the use of donated skin, the chances of survival in patients with first and second degree burns increases by 30% to 50%, depending on their overall condition. "We use the donated skin on patients with severe burns after their condition stabilises. This has led to a significant progress in burn care and recovery," the doctor said.

"We keep a reserve of 4,000 sq.cm of donated skin for patients in the Mahabodhi burns ward in Victoria Hospital. The burns ward gets nearly 220 admissions every month, of which over 70% are serious cases. The bank is a boon for patients, as there is no blood group matching required in skin grafting. Anyone over the age of 18, who does not have any skin disease or infection, can donate skin," Dr. Yogishwarappa said.

Senior nursing officer Nagaraj B.N., who is the coordinator at the bank, said that among the recipients, while the youngest is a four-year-old boy, the oldest is an 85-year-old male. Among donors, the youngest is a 17-year-old male while the oldest is a 98-year-old male.

Dispelling myths

To popularise the concept of skin donation and dispel myths and stigma surrounding it, general awareness programmes are being intensified. "Apart from social media promotions, we visit educational institutions, old age homes and locations of blood donation camps to create awareness," he said.

"People are ready to donate eyes and other organs, but are not convinced about donating skin as they feel it will disfigure the body. That is a myth as only the outer layer of the skin from the thighs and legs (1,000 to 1,500 sq.cm) will be removed," he added.

EDUCATION HUB

A Business Initiative

Convocation of PGDM 14th batch (2022-2024) held at Nitte School of Management, Yelahanka, Bengaluru

Dr. William Ngange, Chairperson, Applied Economics and Agri-Business Management, North Dakota State University, USA, while delivering Convocation address of PGDM 14th batch (2022-2024) at Nitte School of Management, Bengaluru said Success is not final, failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts. Determination and Focus often increase after experiencing setbacks, when you are close to attaining ambitions. Vishal Hegde, Pro-Chancellor (Admin), Nitte Deemed to be University was the Guest of Honor, he opined to the new batch of Post Graduates to become inspirational entrepreneurs. 58 students proudly received their Post Graduate Degree. The Institute honoured academic excellence by awarding Gold Medals to top performers. In the beginning Dr. M. Venugopal, Director, Nitte School of Mnagement welcome the gathering. Prof. G. Koteswara Rao, Controller of Examinations conducted the event. Rohit Punja, Administrator, Nitte Education Trust; Dr. H.C. Nagaraj, Principal, NMIT; Prof. Girinarayan G, Senior HR professional and member of Board of Studies, Nitte School of Management; members of the faculty, students and parents were present on the occasion.

Cambridge Institute of Technology (CIT) KR Puram Bangalore signs MOU with BETA CAE Systems for preparing industry-ready students

Cambridge Institute of Technology, KR Puram Bangalore has signed an MOU with BETA CAE SYSTEMS INDIA PVT. LTD. to enhance the employability of the students of CIT in Computer Aided Engineering job roles. Mr. Stavros Kleidarias - CEO on behalf of BETA CAE Systems and Mr. Nithin Mohan - CEO on behalf of CIT signed the MOU in the august presence of Mr. Lokesh S Bommani - Head of Sales India and Southeast Asia region , Prof. G. Indumathi - Principal of CIT and Dr. K.N. Balasubramanya Murthy Advisor CIT. The purpose of this MOU is to begin and expand a framework of cooperation between the Institute and BETA CAE Systems to set up BETA Centre of Excellence at the institute to train the faculty on latest CAE & FET who in turn support immersive learning for students in understanding CAE, FET, and application of concepts in their projects to gain practical knowledge. Further the students from engineering streams to provide with Hands-on training, Internships, and Project opportunities in the use of BETA CAE Systems software and services. Mr. Stavros Kleidarias and Mr. Lokesh S Bommani expressed their happiness in starting this new association to serve a greater number of students in the space of CAE systems and assured of their full support in realising the objectives. Mr. Mohan - Chairman of CIT mentioned that the Institute is able to expand its network to offer industry relevant education to its students.

Kristu Jayanti College Hosts 38th CII Karnataka State Level Quality Circle Competition 2024: on Partnerships for Sustainable Growth

Kristu Jayanti College (KJC), Autonomous, Bengaluru, was the host of the 38th CII Karnataka State Level Quality Circle Competition 2024, organized by the CII Karnataka on the theme "Globally Competitive Karnataka - Partnerships for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth." Inaugural address by Mr. Nagaraja Gargeshwari, President and Director of Automotive Axles Ltd. In his speech, Mr. Gargeshwari emphasized the importance of partnerships. Rev. Dr. Augustine George, Principal of KJC, delivered the presidential address, highlighting the college's journey towards academic excellence and its commitment to quality education. The competition saw enthusiastic participation from over 300 individuals representing 50 teams from various organizations across Karnataka. The teams were judged by an expert panel comprising esteemed veterans from the corporate world, who evaluated the presentations based on creativity, feasibility, and potential impact. The valedictory session was graced by the presence of Mr. Rabindra Srikantan, VC of the CII Karnataka State Council and MD of ASM Technologies Ltd, who served as the chief guest. Also present were Mr. Sai Golla, Convenor of the CII Karnataka TQM Forum and VP - Corporate Quality at 3M India Ltd, and Mr. Harihara Mahadevan, Convenor of the CII Mysuru TQM Forum and SGM at Schneider Electric India Private Limited. The winners in various categories were felicitated during the valedictory session, acknowledging their outstanding contributions and innovative solutions. With the participation of around 200 first-year MBA students from KJC, the competition provided a valuable learning experience, offering insights into the practical applications of quality management and fostering a spirit of innovation and excellence. This Competition was a grand success, leaving a lasting impact on all attendees and reinforcing the importance of quality and collaboration in achieving sustainable growth.

Prof. Dr. U.T Ifthikar Ali appointed as the Chairman of the Allied & Healthcare Council Karnataka

Presidency University Bengaluru felicitated Prof. Dr. U.T Ifthikar Ali on being appointed as the Chairman of the Allied & Healthcare Council Karnataka, established under the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions (NCAHP). Dr. Ali , a renowned educationist ,healthcare professional, sports enthusiast and social activist. in his new role, will be responsible for overseeing all allied and paramedical course colleges across Karnataka. Honouring his achievements, Dr. Nissar Ahmed, Chancellor of Presidency University, reflected upon the time when Dr. Ifthikar Ali, relentlessly worked for the people of Karnataka during the covid pandemic. The VC Dr.Anubha Singh spoke about Dr.Ifthikar's contribution to the field of both education and health sector and how he will now be even more instrumental in bringing about a change for the betterment of the society. Mr.Salman Ahmed, VP of Presidency Group of Institutions warmly congratulated Dr.Ifthikar and wished him well in the journey ahead.bThe felicitation ceremony became extremely special for Dr.Ifthikar, Ifti, as he is lovingly called, due to the presence of Dr. Muhammed Abdul Hakkim Azhari, well known scholar, educationist and MD of Markaz Knowledge City, Calicut. Dr.Azhari graciously attended the felicitation ceremony and gave his blessings to Dr.Ifthikar.

When physics merged with biology to revolutionise ophthalmology

Ophthalmologists, deeply familiar with the intricate workings of the eye, do not typically have the leisure time to spend in a physicist's lab studying theories behind laser; yet these two seemingly disparate fields combined to modernise vision correction in refractive errors and cataract surgeries

C. Aravinda

Recently, I underwent femtosecond laser surgery, a procedure that promised to correct my vision with incredible precision. While the results were astounding, I couldn't help but wonder – how did physicists, who typically aren't versed in the anatomy of the eye, end up creating a technology so pivotal in ophthalmology? After all, the physics of lasers and the biology of the eye seem like worlds apart. Ophthalmologists, deeply familiar with the intricate workings of the eye, don't typically have the leisure time to spend in a physicist's lab studying LASER. So how did these two seemingly disparate fields merge to revolutionise vision correction in refractive errors and cataracts?

The word 'laser' is actually an acronym for 'Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation', a phrase that encapsulates the physics underlying this transformative technology. The fundamental concept of stimulated emission was first introduced by Albert Einstein in 1917. He theorised that when an electron in an excited state drops to a lower energy level, it can release energy as a photon. If this photon interacts with another excited electron, it can stimulate the release of a second photon of identical energy, phase, and direction – a process that amplifies light.

It wasn't until 1960, however, this theory was practically realised. Theodore Maiman, a physicist at Hughes Research Laboratories, built the first working laser using a ruby crystal as the gain medium. The ruby laser emitted light at a specific wavelength (694 nm) in the red part of the spectrum and was the first of its kind to produce a concentrated beam of light with unique properties – coherence, monochromaticity, and the ability to be focused to a very small spot.

The lasers work by emitting pulses of light that last only a few quadrillionths of a second, making them extraordinarily precise. GETTY IMAGES

Chirped Pulse Amplification

Another breakthrough came in the 1980s with the development of Chirped Pulse Amplification (CPA). This technique revolutionised the field of laser physics. Working at the University of Rochester, Gérard Mourou and his student Donna Strickland (the third woman to win a Nobel prize in physics) introduced CPA to amplify ultrashort laser pulses without damaging the amplifying material. Their innovation later earned them the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2018.

But here the question still remains alive: how did physicists, who likely had little knowledge of eye anatomy, create a tool that would become vital in eye surgery?

The answer lies in an accidental discovery that bridged the gap between the physics lab and the operating theatre.

A research assistant in Gérard Mourou's lab was accidentally struck by a laser beam in his eyes without wearing the goggles he was supposed to wear – a potentially dangerous situation. Seeking medical attention, the assistant visited an ophthalmologist.

But instead of focusing on treatment, the doctor who saw him became intensely curious about the physical qualities of the laser that had caused the injury, hitherto not witnessed in the clinic. The ophthalmologist was intrigued by the 'perfect' or precise damage to the retina in his eyes. This unusual interaction sparked a deeper investigation into the laser's potential, leading to the development of femtosecond ophthalmology.

This cross-disciplinary serendipitous accident – where a medical professional's inquisitiveness about a physics tool met the physicist's quest for practical applications – made room for perfect innovation. CPA allowed for the amplification of laser pulses in a previously-impossible way, opening the door to medical applications requiring extreme precision, such as in eye surgery.

Today, CPA-based lasers are at the heart of femtosurgery laser procedures, like the one I underwent for refraction correction. These lasers work by emitting pulses of light that last only a few quadrillionths of a second, making them extraordinarily precise.

The high-intensity, ultrashort pulses produced by CPA-based lasers allow for precise cornea reshaping with minimal damage to surrounding tissues, resulting in improved patient outcomes and faster recovery times.

The high-intensity, ultrashort pulses produced by CPA-based lasers allow for precise cornea reshaping with minimal damage to surrounding tissues

This have also transformed cataract surgery, one of the most common surgical procedures worldwide. In traditional cataract surgery, a surgeon manually makes incisions in the eye and uses ultrasonic energy to break up the cloudy lens before replacing it with an artificial intraocular lens (IOL).

In laser-assisted cataract surgery, a femtosecond laser is used to create precise incisions and soften the lens, reducing the need for ultrasonic energy and allowing for more accurate placement of the IOL. This technology has improved the precision and safety of cataract surgery, leading to better outcomes and faster recovery times.

A femtosecond laser is an infrared laser with a wavelength of 1053nm used in eye surgeries, especially for its precision. It creates tiny, rapid bursts that break apart the tissue without damaging surrounding areas. Compared to the Nd laser, which operates in nanoseconds (10^{-9} second) , the femtosecond laser's pulse duration is much shorter – measured in femtoseconds (10^{-15} second). This shorter duration significantly reduces the risk of damaging nearby tissues, making the femtosecond laser much safer for delicate procedures like corneal surgery. The femtosecond laser causes a million times less collateral damage than the Nd laser, allowing for extremely precise and safe surgeries. More than 10 million femtolaser surgeries have been performed globally so far using laser technology.

Lasers in cancer therapy

Moreover, the future of high-intensity lasers holds promise in cancer therapy. Researchers are exploring using these lasers to target and destroy cancerous cells with extreme precision, minimising damage to healthy tissues. By focusing the energy of an ultrashort laser pulse onto a tiny area, it's possible to induce a localised effect, such as generating shockwaves or heating, that can selectively destroy cancer cells. This approach is still in its experimental stages. It could one day lead to new, non-invasive treatments for cancer patients.

A bright future ahead

Reflecting on my experience with femtosurgery, I am grateful for the improved vision. From accidental discoveries to intentional innovations, the story of laser technology continues to unfold whether in the operating theatre, the physics lab, or beyond. It's a reminder that sometimes, the most impactful innovations come from the unlikeliest of collaborations–where the physics of light meets the biology of sight, and curiosity knows no disciplinary bounds.

(Dr. C. Aravinda is an academic and public health physician.
aravindaaiimsjr10@hotmail.com)

Why disconnecting from work is important for mental health

Zubeda Hamid
CHENNAI

It used to be a point of pride: working round the clock, at all hours and being known in the family as the workaholic. But increasingly over the last decade, employees, backed by health professionals and research, have begun to say 'enough'. Being the first to arrive and last to leave the workplace is no longer seen as behaviour to be modelled; constantly taking calls and emails after office hours is frowned upon and being able to enjoy days off, without work intruding upon personal time, is the goal.

And in line with this, especially after the COVID-19 pandemic where the work from home culture was often blamed for blurring personal and professional boundaries, Australia, this week, became the latest in a list of countries that give employees the right to disconnect.

What does this mean? It means that workers in Australia can now refuse to respond to work-related communication outside of their working hours, unless doing so is unreasonable. This does not mean employers cannot contact employees outside work hours, but it does mean that the employee can choose to ignore this communication.

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese is reported to have said: "We want to make sure that just as people don't get paid 24 hours a day, they don't have to work for 24 hours a day. It's a mental health issue, frankly, as well, for people to be able to disconnect from their work and connect with their family and their life."

But how seriously is work impacting mental health taken in India, where CEOs/founders of companies have extolled the virtues of working long hours and eschewing weekends, where around 90% of the workforce is in the unorganised sector, where a gig economy thrives, often putting its workers at risk physically and mentally, and where a State government had considered extending daily work days to 14 hours?

Average work week lasts 47.7 hours in India, 13 hours more than that in Germany. GETTY IMAGES

According to data from the International Labour Organisation (ILO) India ranks among the top 10 countries when it comes to the number of hours worked per week, at an average of 47.7 - over 13 hours more than average work week in Germany, at 34.3.

Long hours of work, combined with other factors can impact a person's mental health, says Paulomi Sudhir, professor of clinical psychology, NIMHANS. "What you do and what your workplace is like also play a role in this. There are both systemic and individual factors - for some people there may not be a choice as to how many hours they work or how long they stay in office. For others there may be factors such as how much responsibility their role involves or how they plan their day," she said.

The need to switch off

Overworking can decrease productivity and lead to burnout and the inability to switch off can lead to exhaustion and poor mental health, Dr. Sudhir pointed out.

"Most of us don't practise this but switching off, both physically and mentally from work is very important. It's part of self care - if you can't switch off from work, and this perhaps affects your sleep and your eating habits, then all of these can affect your mental well being," she said.

Leisure and breaks are crucial - studies have shown for instance that in high-stress jobs such as the military and paramilitary forces, not being able to get leave is a critical factor contributing to stress, she said. "Breaks play an important restorative function for positive mental health outcomes." Long, unsocial or inflexible hours is listed as one of the risk factors to mental health, by the World Health Organization.

As much as disconnecting from work is healthy and vital, cultural constraints in India, where workers are trained to work long hours, pose a barrier, said Sona Mitra, principal economist at IWWAGE, a Delhi-based organisation that aims at facilitating the agenda of women's economic empowerment

"While the hybrid work model is great for flexibility, the expectation to respond immediately in order to show accountability that developed during the pandemic, has persisted even now. This means there is no 'off' time for employees. Women especially, are disproportionately affected as they are still expected to be primary caregivers of the household. In India, women spend almost five hours per day more than men on unpaid work at home. Imagine the length of the work day plus the time spent doing household work - where is the rest? This is how their mental health begins to get impacted," she said.

The right to disconnect apart, Ms. Mitra pointed to the fact that several countries have now moved to four day weeks, recognising the importance of weekends and time away from work. "Studies have shown that when these sort of arrangements are in place, it not only raises productivity, it boosts the mental health of the entire workforce. Why can't the global south begin to think about this," she asked.

(zubeda.h@thehindu.co.in)

FDCs are medicines that have two or more active ingredients in a single pill or shot. GETTY IMAGES

Why the Union govt. banned 156 'irrational' fixed dose combinations

Bindu Shajan Perappadan

The Union Health Ministry has recently banned 156 "irrational" fixed dose combinations (FDC) medicines which includes antibiotics, painkillers, and multivitamins. FDCs are medicines that have two or more active ingredients in a single pill, capsule or shot.

As per a gazette notice issued under section 26 A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940, the Ministry said that the production, marketing, and distribution of these drugs are now prohibited due to their associated health risks.

The move, according to the Centre, is aimed at safe guarding the public, ensuring that resistance to certain drugs do not develop in large numbers due to irrational use, and to also curb misuse of drug administration where not warranted

Speaking about the need to bring in such measures, a senior Health Ministry official explained that most of the drugs that made it to the banned list were approved by various State authorities but had no research or trials to backup its safe use in humans. "The new drugs and clinical trial rules of 2019 make it clear that fixed dose combinations are to be considered as new drugs and as such must be approved by the central drug regulator," he said.

The move, according to the Union government, is aimed at safeguarding the public, ensuring that resistance to certain drugs do not develop in large numbers due to irrational use, and to also curb the misuse of drug administration (knowingly or otherwise) where not warranted.

Expert committee

Meanwhile, as per the government notification, the matter was examined by an expert committee appointed by the Central Government and other related authorities, with them recommending that there is no therapeutic justification for the ingredients contained in the said FDCs. "The Central government is satisfied that the use of the FDC drug is likely to involve risk to human beings whereas safer alternatives to the said drug are available," notes the Health Ministry.

Mefenamic acid + Paracetamol injection, Cetirizine HCl + Paracetamol + Phenylephrine HCl, Levocetirizine + Phenylephrine HCl + Paracetamol, Paracetamol + Chlorphenamine Maleate + Phenyl Propanolamine and Camylofin Dihydrochloride 25 mg + Paracetamol 300 mg are some of the FDCs on the list.

Speaking about the ban, Anil Bansal, member of the Delhi Medical Association, said that irrational combination drugs can pose significant health risks in a community that is known to buy over-the-counter drugs. "The lack of knowledge and awareness can work against the patient's welfare," he said.

Dr. Bansal added that since these medicines are being introduced into the market without proper research and randomised controlled trials, their safety does come under scrutiny.

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For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Rain woes

BBMP workers clearing stagnant water on Mysuru Road flyover following heavy rainfall in Bengaluru on Thursday; (right) construction labourers go about their work on Race Course Road. SUDHAKARA JAIN

ORRCA urges immediate intervention

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Outer Ring Road Companies' Association (ORRCA) has issued a strong appeal to various civic authorities, urging them to address a range of pressing civic issues along the Outer Ring Road (ORR) stretch from K.R. Puram to Central Silk Board.

In a letter sent to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB), and Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL), ORRCA outlined several concerns impacting the 17-km stretch.

Main concerns

The association called on relevant authorities to prioritise infrastructure maintenance and upgradation work, including pothole repairs, waterlogging solutions, and proper upkeep of footpaths and service roads. They also emphasised the need for micro-surfacing flyovers and clearing stormwater drains to enhance safety and smooth travel on this critical tech corridor.

'ORR Pain Points'

The ORRCA also released a document titled 'ORR Pain Points', which detailed specific concerns, such as the long-overdue upgrades of 22 arterial roads.

Additionally, the association highlighted the urgent need for attention to the road connecting Panathur Road from Kadubeesanahalli and called for a comprehensive traffic management plan to avoid congestion from arterial roads connecting the Rainbow Bridge to the ORR main carriageway.

The association is also awaiting a work plan for all roads from BBMP, underlining the critical overdue maintenance, particularly in pothole filling.

State to implement 'Code Grey Protocol' in medical colleges

The govt. is also planning to make personal safety devices with self-alarms mandatory for all women staff of these colleges

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

In the wake of the recent rape and murder of a postgraduate medical student in R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital of Kolkata, the Karnataka government has decided to come up with specific measures to ensure the safety of women doctors, nurses and other women staff in all medical colleges. It will put in place a "Code Grey Protocol" on the lines of what exists in Kerala medical colleges and hospitals and conduct continuous security audits.

Following the outrageous incidents in Kolkata, the National Medical Commission (NMC) issued a circular directing the implementation of security measures, including mandatory installation of CCTV in outpatient department (OPD), corridors and any dark areas of the college.

Code Grey Protocol, drawn up by the Health Department of Kerala government to ensure the safety of health workers, patients and hospitals in March 2024, is aimed at alerting the hospital staff to a dangerous or combative person in the hospital or criminal activity on the premises.

If someone, including a patient, is being aggressive, abusive, violent, or displaying threatening behaviour, this is an alert for security personnel in the hospital to act and assist the hospital staff and other patients in managing the situation or removing the aggressor from the premises. It also touches upon psychological support and legal protection that should be extended to hospital workers.

Ex-servicemen to be appointed

It has also been decided that rules will be framed for the recruitment of ex-servicemen for security and conduct continuous security audits. Currently, most medical colleges and hospitals have private security agencies for security, who are not always fit. It has been decided that those appointed should be properly screened through the Police Department to ensure that able-bodied people are on security work.

"It is common to rush to the rescue after untoward incidents occur. However, our aim is to take precautions and prevent any untoward incidents in medical colleges. Steps will be taken to start a control room in every medical college and implement a continuous monitoring system by ex-servicemen. Along with this, steps will be taken to deploy Home Guards compulsorily," said Dr. B.L. Sujatha Rathod, Director of the Directorate of Medical Education.

The government is also planning to make personal safety devices with self-alarms mandatory for all women staff of medical colleges. These devices are equipped with AI technology. When in trouble, users just need to press a button, and an alarm will go off or transmit information to the control room.

All medical colleges in the State already have Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) committees. A task force will be formed in the Department of Medical Education, comprising members of the committee, management and students. And the government has also decided to launch a 24/7 toll-free helpline.

"Already, most women's safety rules have been implemented in government medical colleges and hospitals, and we have sought feedback on the implementation. After receiving feedback, regulations will be formulated and implemented. Along with this, emphasis will also be placed on the management of stress and mental health of women doctors and staff working for long periods," said Ms. Rathod.

TMB Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd
Be a step ahead in life

Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd
CIN: L65110TN1921PLC001908 Registered office: 57, V. E. Road, Thoothukudi – 628 002
Phone: 0461-2325136, 2321929 (E) Website: www.tmb.in | Email: shareholders@tmbank.in

NOTICE OF THE 102nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, E-VOTING AND BOOK CLOSURE INFORMATION

Notice is hereby given that the 102nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the members of the Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited, will be held on **Friday, September 27, 2024** at 10:00 A.M. IST through Video Conferencing ("VC") / Other Audio Visual means ("OAVM") without the physical presence of the members, at a common venue, in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and rules made thereunder, read with MCA circulars (vide General Circular No.09/2023 issued on 25.09.2023 read with General Circular No.14/2020 dated 08.04.2020, No.17/2020 dated 13.04.2020, No.20/2020 dated 05.05.2020, No.02/2021 dated 13.01.2021, No.19/2021 dated 08.12.2021, No.21/2021 dated 14.12.2021, No.02/2022 dated 05.05.2022 and No.10/2022 dated 28.12.2022), SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and SEBI vide its Circular SEBI/HO/CFD/CFD-PoD-2/P/CIR/2023/167 dated 07.10.2023 to transact the businesses as set forth in the Notice of the AGM.

In compliance with aforesaid MCA Circulars and SEBI Circular, electronic copies of the Notice of the AGM, along with the Annual Report for the Financial Year 2023-24, will be sent to those shareholders whose e-mail addresses are registered with the Registrar & Transfer Agent (RTA) / Depository Participants. Shareholders, who have not yet registered their email address, are requested to update the same.

Further, the Notice and the Annual Report for the Financial Year 2023-24 will also be made available on the website of the Bank www.tmb.in under 'Investor's Relations' section, on the website of National Securities Depository Limited ('NSDL') at www.evoting.nsdl.com and on the website of Stock Exchanges i.e., BSE Limited at www.bseindia.com and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.nseindia.com in due course.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 (the "Act") and the rules made thereunder and in compliance with the Regulation 42 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 ("SEBI LODR"), the Register of Members and Share Transfer Books of the Bank will remain closed from Saturday, September 21, 2024 to Friday, September 27, 2024 (both days inclusive).

Shareholders will be able to attend and participate in the AGM only through VC / OAVM. The details for joining the AGM through VC / OAVM will be provided in the Notice of the AGM to be sent to Shareholders.

In accordance with the applicable circulars issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, the Bank is providing to its Members facility to exercise their right to vote on resolutions proposed to be passed at the AGM, by electronic means ("e-voting"). The Bank has engaged the services of National Securities Depository Limited ("NSDL") as the agency to provide e-voting facility.

The remote e-voting schedule is as under:

Commencement of e-voting	**Tuesday, September, 24, 2024 at 9.00 A.M. IST**
End of e-voting	**Thursday, September, 26, 2024 at 5.00 P.M. IST**
Cut-Off date for determining the eligibility for voting	**Friday, September 20, 2024**

Additionally, the Bank is providing the facility of voting through e-voting during the AGM. Detailed procedure for remote e-voting / e-voting during the AGM will be provided in the Notice.

In case of any queries, you may refer the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Shareholders and e-voting user manual for Shareholders available at the download section of www.evoting.nsdl.com or call on: 022 - 4886 7000 or send a request to (Ms.Pallavi Mhatre) at evoting@nsdl.com

The Board of Directors in their meeting held on April 22, 2024 recommended Final Dividend of ₹10/- per equity share of the face value ₹10/- each, for the Financial Year 2023-24, subject to the approval of the Shareholders at the ensuing AGM of the Bank. The Record Date for determining the eligibility for dividend for the Financial Year 2023-24 is **Friday, September 20, 2024.**

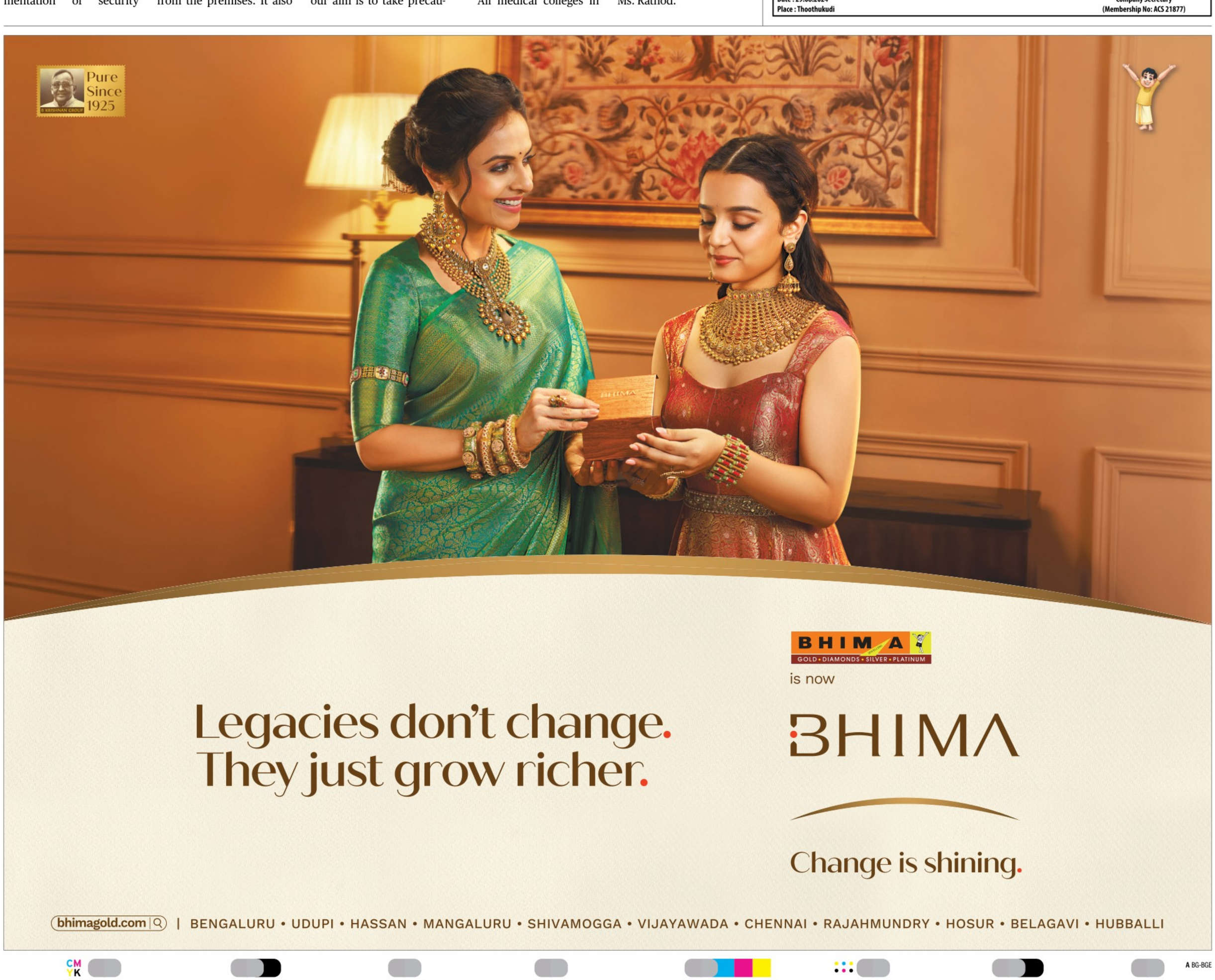
Pursuant to Finance Act 2020, dividend income is taxable in the hands of shareholders w.e.f. April 01, 2020 and the Bank is required to deduct tax at source (TDS) from the dividend paid to shareholders at the prescribed rates. The rate of TDS would vary depending on the residential status of the shareholder and documents registered with the Bank.

Shareholders who are not liable to pay Income Tax, can submit the Forms 15G/15H through online in the website of our Registrar & Share Transfer Agent by assessing the following web link https://liiplweb.linkintime.co.in/formsreg/submission-of-form-15g-15h.html, not later than **September 20, 2024.**

Members may note that as per extant guidelines of SEBI, it is mandatory for shareholders holding securities in physical form in listed entities, to furnish PAN, Bank account details, Specimen Signature, Contact Details and Address. With effect from 01.04.2024, SEBI has mandated that all dividends shall be paid only after submission of all the above mentioned particulars. Henceforth, the Bank's RTA i.e. Link Intime India Private Limited, will attend to all service requests of the shareholders with respect to transmission, dividend, etc., only after updating the above details in the records.

By Order of the Board of Directors
For Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited
Sd/-
Swapnil Ashok Yelgaonkar
Company Secretary
(Membership No: ACS 21877)

Date : 29.08.2024
Place : Thoothukudi



Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Net worth of Adani, the wealthiest Indian as per Hurun 2024 list

11.6 in ₹ lakh crore. Gautam Adani's net worth shot up 95% to ₹11.6 lakh crore last year, which helped him replace Mukesh Ambani to become the richest Indian. PTI

Number of Afghan refugees living in Pakistan: UN

2.18 in million. Pakistan will soon launch the second phase of repatriation of Afghan refugees. It had launched the first round of repatriation of "undocumented aliens" in November last year. PTI

The SIM cards seized during ATS telephone exchange bust

3,788 The Maharashtra police's Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) busted an illegal telephone exchange in Pune, which caused revenue loss to the Telecom department. PTI

The number of people who have died in the Gujarat floods

28 Of those who died, some were hit by falling trees. Rivers have burst their banks and more than 30,000 people have fled their homes. About 1,856 people were rescued by disaster and army officials. AFP

Fine on Air India for not redressing flight cancellations

10 In ₹ lakh. The Director General of Civil Aviation imposed this penalty on Air India Express for non-payment of compensation to passengers of cancelled flights. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Analysing the Gender Budget of 2024-25

What are the different components of the Gender Budget Statement? Have instances of missing allocations been reported by experts with respect to the Gender Budget? How should these anomalies be rectified by the government?

EXPLAINER

Sona Mitra
Sonakshi Chaudhry
Sruthi Kutty

The story so far:

Women-led development remains at the core of announcements made by the Finance Minister (FM) in this year's Budget. This commitment to women empowerment was reflected in Budget allocations to pro-women programmes, as reported by the Gender Budget Statement (GBS). The GB reached 1% of GDP estimates in 2024-25 for the first time, and overall allocations currently stand at more than ₹3 lakh crore for pro-women programmes.

What is the reason for the increase?

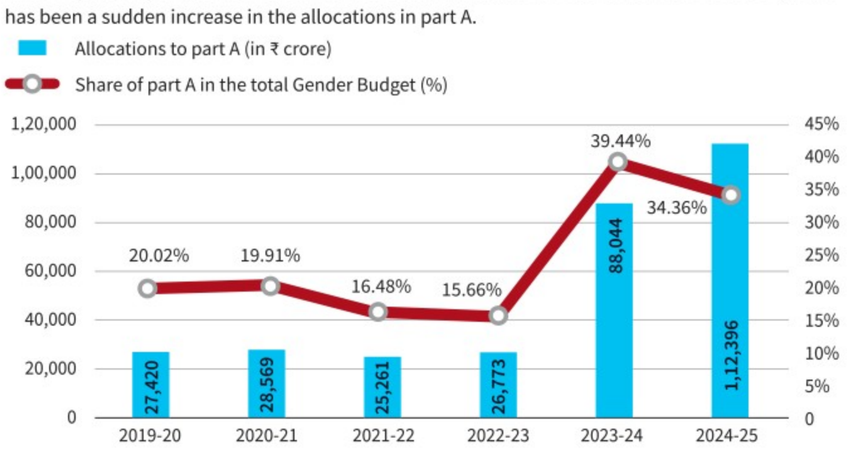
The GBS, since it was first introduced in 2005-06, consistently reported an average share of 5% of the total budgetary allocations, with marginal ups and downs. This year is special as the share of allocations to pro-women schemes stands at approximately 6.8% of the total budget expenditure for 2024-25, which is way above the usual trends and marks a positive departure from status quo.

The increase in GB allocations are driven by two factors. A part of this increase has been on account of the newly included Part 'C,' a third part in the GBS that reports pro-women schemes with less than 30% provisioning for women. The PM Kisan scheme in the agriculture sector has been reported in part C with an outlay of ₹15,000 crore. This is 25% of the total outlay of the programme. The second factor driving the overall increase is the increment in part A of the GBS. Part A reports expenditures in schemes with 100% allocation for women.

Part A had previously constituted 15-17% of overall allocations reported in the GBS till BE 2022-23. Since BE 2023-24, there was a sudden increase in the allocations in part A that raised the share of pro-women schemes with 100% allocations for women to almost 40% (figure 1). This was mainly due to a change in the reporting where the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) – rural and urban – started getting reflected in part A instead of part B. Part B of the GBS reports programmes with allocations of 30-99% for women. Hence, only a part of PMAY was reported earlier. Beginning last year, the entire allocation of ₹80,670 crore in PMAY for 2024-25BE has been reported under part A thus driving the up allocations. Such reporting of PMAY may not be entirely accurate as not all beneficiaries are women.

Figure 1: The allocations under part A and the share in the total Budget

Part A reports expenditures in schemes with 100% allocation for women. Since BE 2023-24, there has been a sudden increase in the allocations in part A.



The Gender Budget Statement consistently reported an average share of 5% of the total budgetary allocations, with marginal ups and downs. This year is special as the share of allocations to pro-women schemes stands at approximately 6.8% of the total budget expenditure for 2024-25

Have there been other instances of over-reporting/under-reporting?

Over-reporting may also be found in other instances such as the PM Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), which aims to assist entrepreneurs in setting up micro businesses in the non-farm sector. The GBS reported an allocation of ₹920 crore or 40% of the total allocation to PMEGP, without providing any explanation for such reporting.

On the other hand, missing allocations often deflate the amount spent by programmes on women's needs. For example, this year for the first time the entire allocation to the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) is reflected in part A of the GBS, indicating that 100% of its outlay is dedicated to women and girls, which is technically correct and should have been done earlier. In 2023-24BE, only 50% of the scheme's total outlay used to be reflected in part B of the GBS. The GBS this year has also correctly reported increased allocations for the Ministry of Electronics & IT. But it missed out reporting pro-women allocations in the schemes for women entrepreneurs such as PM Vishwakarma, SVANidhi, and Stand-Up India.

In another instance, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), which has the third highest allocation among schemes for women in the GBS, is currently reported under part B with ₹28,888.67 crore which is 33.6% of its total outlay. It is important to note that women constituted 59.3% of all person days under MGNREGA as of December 2023, and should have received commensurate wages from the total MGNREGA budget, yet only 33.6% gets reflected in the GBS.

What next?

These anomalies can be minimised by incorporating explanations for the entries made in the GBS. Incorporating explanations for allocations in GBS would not only ensure accounting accuracy but will help in gender audits and provide pathways for improved gender outcomes in government programmes. Several years of advocating for improved reporting in the GBS by experts is reflected in the inclusion of a third part. The above anomalies in reporting are reflections of the GBS still not having a scientific and systematic approach.

Efforts to reduce misreporting and improve the quality of the GBS is evident, but there is still a long way to go. The need for including rationale is also to maintain that detailed reporting is not a mere exercise in increasing the quantum of allocations reported for women's development – it is to ensure actual spending for women in all government programmes, that are well planned and designed to include women's needs from its inception. Gender responsive budgeting is a powerful tool to close the gender gaps in an economy.

Sona Mitra and Sruthi Kutty work with IWWAGE, an initiative of LEAD at Krea University, and Sonakshi Chaudhry works at The Quantum Hub (TQH Consulting).

THE GIST

- The GB reached 1% of GDP estimates in 2024-25 for the first time, and overall allocations currently stand at more than ₹3 lakh crore for pro-women programmes.
- The increase in GB allocations are driven by two factors. A part of this increase has been on account of the newly included Part 'C,' a third part in the GBS that reports pro-women schemes with less than 30% provisioning for women.
- The second factor driving the overall increase is the increment in part A of the GBS. Part A reports expenditures in schemes with 100% allocation for women.

On the controversy over lateral entry into the civil services

Why did the Prime Minister's Office intervene and withdraw the advertisement regarding lateral entry for different positions in government? What is a spoils system and how does it work?

Rangarajan. R

The story so far:

The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) had withdrawn its advertisement pertaining to lateral recruitment for 45 posts of Joint Secretaries (JS), Directors and Deputy Secretaries (DS) in the government. This follows objections raised by coalition partners and the Opposition as well as the intervention of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) about the need for reservation in such lateral recruitment.

What is merit versus spoils system?

Merit system entails appointments to government posts after a rigorous selection process by an independent authority. In India, this commenced in the year 1858 when the British introduced the Indian Civil Service (ICS) to select officers for administering the country. After independence, the UPSC conducts exams to select officers for IAS, IPS and other central services. The merit system is aimed at building career bureaucrats who are expected to function without any political leanings and provide independent advice to the incumbent political executive.

The spoils system on the other hand works on the adage 'to the victor belong the spoils.' It is a system where the incumbent political executive appoints its supporters to various posts in the government. It has its origins in the U.S., and continued until 1883 when it was replaced largely by a merit system. At present, out of more than 2.8 million federal government posts, only around 4,000 senior posts are directly appointed by the President.

What is lateral entry?

IAS and other central service officers with more than 15 years of experience are generally posted as JS to head various departments. It is a cutting-edge post where the officers prepare cabinet notes, handle parliamentary questions, liaise with officers of other ministries and State governments.

Lateral entry is when executives from the private sector, public sector undertakings and academia are appointed to senior and middle management positions in the government. There have been instances of lateral entrants who were technocrats being appointed at secretary level posts since independence. Notable examples include former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, economist Montek Singh Ahluwalia, agriculture scientist M.S. Swaminathan etc. The Second Administrative Reforms Commission (2005) and the NITI Aayog in 2017 had also recommended lateral entrants to bring specialised knowledge and skills into governance.

What are the pros and cons?

Lateral entry brings with it certain tangible benefits. First, it brings much needed specialisation for niche areas of governance like emerging technologies, semiconductors, climate change, digital economy, cyber security etc. Second, it results in infusion of fresh ideas from experts to reinvigorate the system. Third, it also has the potential of making career bureaucrats more responsive thereby bringing in a positive change.

However, it has its own set of significant limitations. The domain expertise and specialisation of IAS officers is their field experience that is hard to match by outside entrants. There can be coordination issues with career bureaucrats. It may also result in opaqueness and conflicts of interests while hiring recruits from private sector.

What can be the way forward?

Notable lateral entrants in the past have been appointees at the secretary level which is the highest position in government departments. At this level, the lateral entrant will be capable of influencing policy decisions. Their performance will also be subjected to greater scrutiny. Even if appointments are to be made at more operational levels of JS, Directors and DS posts, it should be in line with public policy.

In his book *The Tyranny of Merit*, political philosopher Michael Sandel discusses the flaws of placing too much emphasis on merit without pursuing equity. Hence, appointment at these levels should coalesce technical competence with reservation and social justice. Therefore, the intervention from the PMO in the recent episode is welcome.

However, excessive focus on lateral entrants is missing the larger picture. The issues plaguing the system cannot be set right with just a handful of lateral recruits. While there can be genuine grievances about the red-tapism, inefficiency and corruption in administration, it is equally true that career bureaucrats work in a challenging environment. Since governments deal with public money, the system is bound by a plethora of rules. Government performs various roles where the objectives are intangible, which the private sector would not do. Compounding these operational challenges is excessive political interference. A merit system being morphed into a spoils system is a serious threat to Indian bureaucracy and various institutions headed by career bureaucrats.

Autonomy of career bureaucrats is essential for their effective functioning. This includes reasonable independence with respect to postings, tenures and transfers. In this regard, as per Supreme Court judgment in the *T.S.R. Subramanian* case (2013), Civil Service Boards headed by top bureaucrats should be effectively constituted and strengthened at the Centre and States.

Rangarajan. R is a former IAS officer and author of 'Polity Simplified'. Views expressed are personal.

Banana selling at ₹150 a kg in city

Jahnavi T. R.
BENGALURU

The humble banana has become one of the most expensive fruits in Bengaluru's markets with the Yelakki variety now selling at around ₹125 - ₹160 per kg. While a huge part of the crop was damaged owing to no rain during the sowing season, most of the remaining crop got damaged in the heavy rains that followed.

According to the data provided by the Horticulture Department, bananas on 1,737.7 hectares of land were lost due to heavy rains in 2024, amounting to an estimated monetary loss of ₹41.25 crore. In Chamarajanagar, which is one of the leading producers of bananas in Karnataka, bananas were lost on 1,104.7 acres. In Vijayanagara district, 238.8 hectares of bananas were lost.

"There was no rain when it was necessary for the (banana) crop. So many farmers who had cultivated it took it out and yield dropped to 50-60%. After that, it started raining continuously and even the remaining fruits started getting red and black spots and there are no takers for such fruits. Hence, the supply is not great in the market," explained K.G. Purushotham, president, Banana Fruits Merchants' Association.

Currently, the yelakki variety is selling at ₹95-₹100 per kg while the Robusta variety is selling at ₹29-₹30 per kg in wholesale markets (mandis). In retail markets and online selling platforms, the price of yelakki is between ₹125-₹160 while the price of Robusta is around ₹40-₹50 per kg.

Even if customers are ready to pay these prices, most of them are not able to find good quality, ripe bananas in the market. Sachin Rai, a resident of Padmanabhanagar said, "When I was buying bananas for Krishna Janmashtami, it was so difficult to find ripe bananas. I could only find unripe yelakki bananas in many shops."

Mr. Purushotham said that the prices of bananas might drop after Ganesh Chaturthi when the new crop begins to come in from Tamil Nadu.

Horticultural crop loss on 3,700 hectares

Due to heavy rains in 2024, horticultural crops have been lost on around 3,700 hectares (ha) of land (at a value of ₹65.17 crore), officials from the Horticulture Department said. Chamarajanagar (1,110.2 ha), Bagalakote (417.9 ha), Haveri (392.2 ha) and Kolar (371.7 ha) are the worst affected districts.

Currently, Yelakki bananas are selling at ₹95–₹100 per kg while the Robusta variety is selling at ₹29–₹30 per kg in wholesale markets. FILE PHOTO

Price of different varieties of banana

Yelakki	₹125 - 160 per kg
Robusta	₹40 - 50 per kg
Nendra	₹100 - 120 per kg

Horticultural crop loss

Total crop loss **3,700** hectares
Value of crop lost **₹65.17** crore

Other crops

Apart from bananas, onions, mangoes, chillis and areacanuts are some of the other worst affected crops. Overall, the loss of horticultural crops has led to an increase in the prices of fruits and vegetables in the city. "It is difficult to buy anything in the market anymore as every now and then we keep hearing about crop damage and the price of every fruit and vegetable keeps going up. Most of the hikes cross the ₹100 mark making it really difficult for the middle class to afford," said Bhagya Lakshmi, a resident of Hebbal.

Transport Minister proposes truck terminal at Attibele to ease congestion on Hosur Road

The proposed terminal aims to accommodate the many trucks that operate in this region, addressing logistical challenges

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Transport Department is planning to develop the land at the Attibele checkpost on Hosur Road in Bengaluru into a D. Devaraj Urs Truck Terminal. The proposed terminal aims to accommodate the numerous trucks that operate in this region, addressing both traffic congestion and logistical challenges.

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy has formally written a letter to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah appealing to the State government to transfer 25 acres of land at the Attibele checkpost for this project. The goal is to alleviate the heavy vehicular congestion in the area and streamline the loading and unloading activities for the trucks and lorries that frequent this route, he said.

Mr. Reddy explained that the 25-acre parcel of land, currently owned by the Commercial Tax Department, was initially set aside for a checkpost near Attibele to monitor the cargo of commercial and goods vehicles traveling between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. This checkpost was also a key point for collecting commercial taxes. However, following the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), the checkpost and the associated Commercial Tax Office were closed, leaving the land unused for the past seven years.

The establishment of the truck terminal would contribute to the overall development of the surrounding areas. FILE PHOTO

Close to industrial areas

Mr. Reddy highlighted the strategic importance of converting this unused land into a truck terminal, particularly given its proximity to the industrial areas of Jigani, Bommasandra, and Attibele. "These areas see a high volume of trucks transporting raw materials and construction supplies, necessitating adequate parking and logistical support for these vehicles. The establishment of the truck terminal would not only address these needs but also contribute to the overall development of the surrounding areas," he said.

In his letter to the Chief Minister, Mr. Reddy also pointed out that the development of the D. Devaraj Urs Truck Terminal on this land could generate additional revenue for the State government. Furthermore, he emphasised that the project would help curb illegal activities that have been occurring on the currently unused land.

The D. Devaraj Urs Truck Terminals, operated by a State-owned company, are designed to discourage trucks from entering city limits, thereby reducing traffic congestion and air pollution. These terminals are also intended to provide essential amenities for truck drivers and their crews, enhancing the overall efficiency and safety of the trucking industry in Karnataka.

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, राँची

अति अल्पकालीन ई–पुर्ननिविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

पत्रांकः– **PR 332536 REO(24-25):D** दिनांक–

अति अल्पकालीन ई–पर्नुनिविदा संख्याः–24/RE/2023-24/RWD/EE/RANCHI

क्रम सं0	आईडेन्टी फिकेशन संख्या / पैकेज संख्या	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में) अंक में	अक्षर में	कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि / अवधि	टेण्डर कॉल नं0
1	RWD/RANCHI / 45/ STPKG/13/ 2023-24	गुलजारबाग से बलथोरा तक भाया–सुमुटोंगरी पथ का सुदृढ़ीकरण कार्य। (ल0–4.100 कि0मी0)	14,87,18,500.00	चौदह करोड़ सतासी लाख अठारह हजार पाँच सौ रूपये मात्र।	15 माह	शष्टम
		एस0एच0 खेलारी राँची से खेलारी रेलवे स्टेशन भाया–हुटाप बस्ती, मुण्डा धोरा, नारायण धोरा एवं खेलारी थाना पथ का सुदृढ़ीकरण कार्य। (ल0–5.685 कि0मी0)				
		ठाकुरगांव–काठीटांड़ एस0एच0 पथ से मदना बगीचा से माण्डर सीमाना भाया ठाकुरगांव थाना (गुरगाँई से खिजुरटोला भाया मुरूमगढ़ा एवं पतराटोली) पथ का सुदृढ़ीकरण कार्य। (ल0–9.695 कि0मी0)				

1. वेबसाईट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथिः–**02.09.2024**
2. ई–निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समयः–**09.09.2024** अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।
3. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समयः–**11.09.2024** अपराह्न 3.30 बजे।
4. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पताः– कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, राँची।
5. ई–निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं0– 0651–2360137

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

PR 334104 REO(24-25)#D

कार्यपालक अभियंता
ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, राँची

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गोड्डा

ई–निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना
ई– निविदा सूचना संख्या – RWD/SD/GODDA/11/2024-25RE

1.कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणी :

क्रम / ग्रुप सं०	प्रखंड	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि	अग्रधन की राशि	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	पथरगामा	गोड्डा जिला के पथरगामा प्रखंड अन्तर्गत ग्राम हरला टोली से चिलकारा के बीच सापीन नदी पर उच्चस्तरीय पुल निर्माण।	3,88,42,400.00	7,77,000.00	10,000.00	18 माह

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि – 31.08.2024
3. ई–निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय – दिनांक 31.08.2024 से दिनांक 10.09.2024 को अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक
4. ई–निविदा खोलने का स्थान – कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, गोड्डा।
5. ई–निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय – 12.09.2024 अपराह्न 2:00 बजे
6. ई–निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता :– कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गोड्डा।
7. ई–निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं० – 8340110173
8. परिमाण विपत्र की राशि घट–बढ़ सकती है तद्नुसार अग्रधन की राशि देय होगी।
9. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि केवल Online Mode द्वारा स्वीकार्य होगी।
10. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि का ई–भुगतान जिस खाता से किया जायेगा, उसी खाते में अग्रधन की राशि वापस होगी। अगर खाता को बंद कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी सारी जवाबदेही आपकी होगी।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये वेबसाईट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in एवं कार्यालय की सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
PR 333890 Rural Development(24-25).D
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल,गोड्डा

Rail Wheel Plant/Bela
(Distt. - Saran), Bihar - 841221

PRE TENDER MEET NOTICE
Notice No: BUS Operation/RT Shop

Competent Authority has decided to organise a pre-tender meet of prospective bidders for the items detailed below **(1) Description:** 1. Hiring of Bus with Operation and Maintenance for Staff of Rail Wheel Plant Bela. **(2) Place of Meeting:** 3rd floor conference room RWP/Bela **(3) Date and time:** 18.09.2024 at 12:00 hrs. **(4) Website particulars and address of the office:** For more details kindly visit RWP website **https://rwp.indianrailways.gov.in** or Office of the Secy. to Chief Administrative Officer, 3rd Floor, Rail Wheel Plant, Bela, Mechanical Branch, Administrative Building, Sitalpur, Saran, Chhapra-841221 **Secy. to CAO/RWP/Bela**
RWP/CPRO/ADVT/2024-25/55

Your feedback will keep us Cleaner, Sharper and Bolder

Call our toll-free number
1800 102 1878
Or write to us at
customercare@thehindu.co.in

Scan the QR code to register your feedback

THE HINDU · thehindu businessline · FRONTLINE · SPORTSTAR · The Hindu Young World · THE HINDU

GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND
SPORTS AUTHORITY OF JHARKHAND
(Department of Tourism, Art-Culture, Sports & Youth Affairs)
Gate No. - 28, Birsa Munda Football Stadium, Morabadi, Ranchi, Jharkhand
Email: sajha9@gmail.com

Advertisement No: 157 **Date: 29.08.2024**

1. **Sports Authority of Jharkhand (SAJHA)** is an autonomous organization under Department of Tourism, Art Culture, Sports & Youth Affairs, Govt of Jharkhand with its office at Birsa Munda Football Stadium, Morabadi Ranchi, Jharkhand.
2. SAJHA invites applications from eligible, qualified and motivated Indian Citizens for providing consultancy as **Sports Fellow-cum-Junior Consultant.** The role is offered on a contract basis, initially for a period of two years, with the scope of annual extensions up to a maximum of five years.

S. No	Name of the post	Stream	Number of Post
1.	Sports Fellow-cum- Junior Consultant	General	02 [UR -1], [ST-1]

3. SAJHA is at liberty to appoint Sports Fellow-cum-Junior Consultant based on actual workload. The waitlist panel for each category will be maintained for deployment at All-Over Jharkhand basis to fill the vacancies arising throughout the year.
4. Start date of downloading of application from 30.08.2024 from 01:00 PM. Last date of submitting application form is 06.09.2024 till 05:00 P.M. The details of recruitment along with application form is available on SAJHA website i.e.; **sajha.in** Applicants must submit filled up form available on the website and send it through given email-id (sajha9@gmail.com). No other mode of communication will be considered.
5. SAJHA reserves all the rights to withdraw this advertisement at any time without assigning any reason. For any recruitment related query, e-mail to sajha9@gmail.com.

Sd/-
Executive Director
Sports Authority of Jharkhand

PR.NO.334121 Art Culture Sports and Youth Affairs(24-25):D

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No. ECN-08-2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Name of work	Approx. Value
[I] Modification of 11 KV HT ,440 V and 230V LT and 33KV HT Overhead Power Line Crossings by UG Cable in Non-EPC Section of Talkal-Wadi New BG Line. **[II]**. Electrification of Station Building & Service Building at Budhagumpa and Chikabenakal , Platforms at Karatgi Railway Station & Shifting/Modification of HT 11KV and LT Powerline Crossings, Lighting Arrangement at ROB in lieu of LC 102 at Kudatini. **[III]**. Power Supply Arrangement at Ugarkhurd and Electrification of Covered Platform and FOB at Raybag , Chinchili and Kudachi. **[VI]**. Power Supply Arrangement to Track Machine Siding at Sambre, Sulebhavi, Pachapur, Chikodi Road, Chinchili, Kudachi, Shedbal & Vijayanagar. **[V]**. Power Supply and Lighting arrangement to ROB in Lieu of LC 88 at Indi Road.	**Rs. 2,34,66,478/-**

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 16-09-2024
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer/Construction
PUB/373/AAF/PRB/SWR/2024-25 **Bengaluru Cantonment**
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

IN THE COURT OF THE 73rd ADDL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, AT BENGALURU (CCH-74)
O.S. 25032/2024

BETWEEN: 1. M/s. A. J. Developers, A Partnership concern having its office at: No. 401, A J Muneera Enclave, No. 59, 1st Cross, Siddharamappa Garden, Mayura Road, St. Thomas Town Post, Lingarajapura, Bengaluru-560 084. Rep. By its Partners Mr. A Ajmal @ A Ajmal Shaik and Mrs. Salma. **2. Mr. A. Ajmal Shaik,** S/o Mr. S. A. Ahmed, aged about 45 years. **3. Mrs. Salma,** W/o Mr. Ajmal Shaik, aged about 40 years, Plaintiffs Nos. 2 and 3 R/at No. 401, A J Muneera Enclave, No. 59, 1st Cross, Siddharamappa Garden, Mayura Road, St. Thomas Town Post, Lingarajapura, Bengaluru-560 084. ... **PLAINTIFFS**

AND: 1. Mr. Mohammed Azam, S/o Late Mr. Siraj Ahmed, aged about 29 years, R/at: # 5/1, M.M.Road, Frazer Town, Bangalore-560 005. **2. Mrs. Ayesha Banu,** W/o Late Mr. Siraj Ahmed, aged about 58 years, R/at # 7, B Street, Haines Road, Clevaland Town, Bangalore- 560 005. ... **DEFENDANTS**

SUIT /SUMMON TO THE DEFENDANT U/O 5 RULE 20 C.P.C

Whereas the plaintiff above named have preferred a suit for declaration and cancellation deed against the defendant No.1 and 2 for other relief/s and you are hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble court either in hereby person or through the pleader on the **30/09/2024** at **11 'o' Clock** to answer the same, failing which the said suit will be disposed off ex-parte.

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Two Bed Room Apartment bearing No. 301, Now Municipal No. 5/5, PID No. 79-39-5/5, on the third Floor having super built up area of 1150 sq ft along with 270 sq ft UDS in the land and one covered car parking space in the Stilt floor, constructed in multi-storied Residential Apartment known as "AJ Residency" in property No. 5, PID No. 79-39-5, Velu Mudaliar Road, Bangalore, and the entire property is bounded on: **East by:** Property No. 4, Velu Mudaliar Road, **West by:** Property No. 5/1, Velu Mudaliar Road, **North by:** Velu Mudaliar Road, **South by:** Property bearing No. 9, Sabapathy Lane.

SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Duplex Apartment bearing No. 601, on Sixth Floor having Super Built up Area of 5500 sq ft (ie., 2750 sq ft + 2750 sq ft) with exclusive garden of 1015 sq ft along with two covered car parking spaces in the stilt floor of multistoried residential building known as 'A J Residency' along with 346 sq ft UDS in the land comprised therein property bearing No. 10, (formerly No. 17) PID No. 91-44-10, Kumaraswamy Naidu Road, Frazer Town, Bangalore-560 005, and entire property is bounded on: **East by:** No.11, Kumaraswamy Naidu Street, **West by:** Premises No. 9, Kumaraswamy Naidu Road, **North by:** Municipal Conservancy Lane, **South by:** Kumaraswamy Naidu Road

Given under my hand and seal of the court this 29/08/2024

By order of the Court, Deputy Registrar, City Civil Court, Mayo Hall Unit, Bengaluru

Sri A.C. BALARAJ,
A.C. THOMASAPPA,
B.Y.G. MITHUN KUMAR, Advocates
No. 618, 3rd Floor, Rajeshwari Market Building, Avenue Road, Bengaluru-560 002.

National Highways Authority of India
(Ministry of Road Transport and Highways)

भर्ती सूचना/RECRUITMENT NOTICE

भा.रा.रा.प्रा. निम्नलिखित पदों के लिए भर्ती हेतु आवेदन आमंत्रित करता है:–
NHAI invites applications for recruitment to the following posts:-

Post	No.	Pay Scale	Mode	Closing Date
मुख्य महाप्रबंधक (विधि) Chief General Manager (Legal)	01	लेवल–14 (रु. 144200-218200)/ (संशोधन–पूर्व) पीबी–4 (रु. 37400-67000) + ग्रेड पे रु. 10000/- Level-14 (Rs. 144200-218200)/ (pre-revised) PB-4 (Rs. 37400-67000) with Grade Pay Rs.10000/-	प्रतिनियुक्ति Deputation	20.09.2024
महाप्रबंधक (वित्त) General Manager (Finance)	01	लेवल–13 (रु. 123100-215900)/ (संशोधन–पूर्व) पीबी–4 (रु. 37400-67000) + ग्रेड पे रु. 8700/- Level-13 (Rs. 123100-215900)/ (pre-revised) PB-4 (Rs. 37400-67000) with Grade Pay Rs. 8700/-	पदोन्नति/ प्रतिनियुक्ति Promotion/ Deputation	20.09.2024
महाप्रबंधक (भूमि अर्जन एवं संपदा प्रबंधन) General Manager (Land Acquisition & Estate Management)	01			20.09.2024
महाप्रबंधक (विधि) General Manager (Legal)	02			06.09.2024
उप महाप्रबंधक (विधि) Deputy General Manager (Legal)	01	लेवल–12 (रु. 78800-209200)/ (संशोधन–पूर्व) पीबी–3 (रु. 15600-39100) + ग्रेड पे रु. 7600/- Level-12 (Rs. 78800-209200) /(pre-revised) PB-3 (Rs. 15600-39100) with Grade Pay Rs. 7600/-	प्रतिनियुक्ति Deputation	06.09.2024
प्रबंधक (विधि) Manager (Legal)	04	लेवल–11 (रु. 67700-208700)/ (संशोधन–पूर्व) पीबी–3 (रु. 15600-39100) + ग्रेड पे रु. 6600/- Level-11 (Rs. 67700-208700) /(pre-revised) PB-3 (Rs. 15600-39100) with Grade Pay Rs. 6600/-		11.09.2024
कनिष्ठ हिन्दी अनुवादक Junior Hindi Translator	01	लेवल–6 (रु. 35400-112400)/ (संशोधन–पूर्व) पीबी–2 (रु. 9300-34800) + ग्रेड पे रु 4200/- Level-6 (Rs. 35400-112400)/ (Pre-revised) PB-2 (Rs. 9300-34800) with Grade Pay Rs. 4200/-		23.09.2024

2. भा.रा.रा.प्रा. की वेबसाइट (**www.nhai.gov.in**) पर उपलब्ध विस्तृत विज्ञापन में दी गई प्रक्रिया के अनुसार आवेदक प्रत्येक पद के लिए ऊपर दी गई अंतिम तिथि के अनुसार ऑनलाइन आवेदन जमा करना सुनिश्चित करें।
The applicant is required to ensure submission of online application as per the procedure indicated in the detailed advertisement, available on NHAI website **(www.nhai.gov.in),** by closing date as prescribed above against each post.
3. आयु सीमा, योग्यता मानदंड, अन्य शर्तों आदि से संबंधित विस्तृत विवरण भा.रा.रा.प्रा. की वेबसाइट पर देखे जा सकते हैं।
Details regarding age limit, eligibility criteria, other conditions etc. may also be accessed on NHAI website.
4. इस विज्ञापन के संबंध में शुद्धिपत्र/अनुशेष/निरस्तीकरण, यदि कोई होगा तो, उसे केवल भा.रा.रा.प्रा. की वेबसाइट पर प्रकाशित किया जाएगा।
Corrigendum/Addendum/Cancellation to this advertisement, if any, shall be published on NHAI website only.

***BUILDING A NATION,* NOT JUST ROADS**

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
लघु सिंचाई प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा

ई०–निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या– MID/CHAIBASA/ SBD-01/2024-25 (DMFT)

1. **कार्य का नाम :–**

ग्रुप संख्या	योजना का नाम	जिला	प्रखण्ड	प्राक्कलित राशि (लाख में)	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रूपये में)	अग्रधन की राशि (रूपये में)	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	अंधारी पंचायत में कुनावा पी०डब्ल्यु०डी० मुख्य सड़क से बाईसाई तक पी०सी०सी० पथ निर्माण।	पश्चिमी सिंहभूम	कुमारडुंगी	308.401	10,000.00	309000.00	11 माह
2.	भालुपानी पंचायत के ग्राम उदयनारायणपुर प्राथमिक विद्यालय भलियाडीह सीमा तक पी०सी०सी० पथ निर्माण।	पश्चिमी सिंहभूम	बन्दगाँव	322.914	10,000.00	323000.00	11 माह
3.	लाण्डुपदा पंचायत के ग्राम डेंगसारगी गाँव में सरकारी स्कूल से आर०ई०ओ०रोड० तक पी०सी०सी० पथ निर्माण।	पश्चिमी सिंहभूम	बन्दगाँव	324.065	10,000.00	325000.00	11 माह
4.	लाण्डुपदा पंचायत के ग्राम डेंगसारगी में सरकारी तालाब से कान्डे हेम्ब्रम के घर तक पी०सी०सी० पथ निर्माण।	पश्चिमी सिंहभूम	बन्दगाँव	271.128	10,000.00	272000.00	11 माह

नोट :– केवल ई०–निविदा(Online Mode) ही स्वीकार होगी।
2. अधिक जानकारी के लिए बेबसाईट WWW.jharkhandtenders.gov.in पर देखें।
3. बेवसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि एवं समय :– 05.09.2024 के 11:00 बजे पूर्वाहन् से।
4. ई०–निविदा में भाग लेने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :– 26.09.2024 अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक।
5. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :– 28.09.2024 पूर्वाहन् 11:00 बजे ।
6. निविदा आमंत्रित करनेवाले पदाधिकारी का नाम, पता , दूरभाष सं0 एवं ई०–मेल आई डी0– कार्यपालक अभियंता , लघु सिंचाई प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा / 9471742851 ई0मेल – eemidchaibasa@gmail.com, eemidchai-cemr-jhr@nic.in
7. निविदा के B.O.Q की राशि घट–बढ़ सकती है तदानुसार B.O.Q के मूल्य एवं अग्रधन की राशि में बदलाव होगा ।
8. प्राक्कलित राशि का 10 प्रतिशत से नीचे के दर से निविदित (Quoted rate is more than 10% below the schedule rate) के परिपेक्ष में पथ निर्माण विभाग, झारखण्ड रॉची के पत्रांक 2146(S) दिनांक 09.09.2020 के शर्तावली के अनुसार अतिरिक्त जमानत की राशि एकारारनामा करने के समय जमा करना अनिवार्य होगा ।
9. परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य एवं अग्रधन की राशि सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी एवं ई–गवर्नेस विभाग झारखण्ड मंत्रालय, धुर्वा, राँची के आदेश सह ज्ञापांक 120, दिनांक 03.10.2023 के अनुरूप (Online) प्राप्त की जायेगी।
10. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि का ई–भुगतान सम्वेदक द्वारा जिस बैंक खाता से किया जाएगा। उसी खाते में अग्रधन की राशि वापस होगी। अगर बैंक खाता को बन्द कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी सारी जवाबदेही सम्वेदक की होगी।
11. निविदा निष्पादन Double Bid Envelope पद्धति से किया जाएगा Technical Bid में सफल निविदादाता का ही Financial Bid खोला जाएगा।
उपायुक्त, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम का पत्रांक 1679, दिनांक 23.12.2022 के आलोक में निविदा डालने के समय चाईबासा जिलान्तर्गत किसी भी प्रमण्डल / विभाग द्वारा आवंटित कार्य एकरारित अवधि बीत जाने के बाद लंबित नही होने संबंधी शपथ–पत्र Affidavit देना होगा। निविदा के एक NIT में एक निबंधन पर दो से अधिक कार्य आवंटित नहीं किया जाएगा। वैसे संवेदक जो एकरारनामा में अंकित कार्य पूर्ण करने की तिथि तक योजनाओं का कार्य अधूरा रखे हुए हैं। उन्हें जिला अन्तर्गत चलने वाली किसी भी योजना में तब तक कार्य आबंटित नहीं किया जाएगा जब तक अपने पूर्व के कार्य को समाप्त न कर दें। जिला अन्तर्गत किसी भी विभाग का कार्य लम्बित होने की सूचना यदि इस कार्यालय को प्राप्त होती है तो संबंधित संवेदक को कार्य आवंटित नहीं किया जाएगा।

ह०/– **कार्यपालक अभियंता**
PR 334023 West Singhbhum (24-25)_D **लघु सिंचाई प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा**

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, AUG. 30
RISE 06:08 SET 18:31
RISE 02:47 SET 16:06

SATURDAY, AUG. 31
RISE 06:08 SET 18:31
RISE 03:43 SET 16:53

SUNDAY, SEP. 01
RISE 06:09 SET 18:30
RISE 04:35 SET 17:34

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	25
Mysuru	27	20
Bengaluru	26	21

Bengaluru Today
28°C The weather will be comfortable. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower with gusty winds will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C Day will be slight warm with cloudy sky. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client intends to purchase the schedule property from its present owners **Smt. Gowramma & her family members** for valuable consideration. **Smt. Gowramma and her family members** state to our client that they are the absolute owners in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the schedule property without any let or hindrance from anyone.

Anyone having any right, title, interest or claim whatever in respect of the schedule property are requested to present their claims/objections in writing with all supportive documents to the undersigned within **SEVEN days,** otherwise our client will proceed with the sale and claims whatever received later will not be entertained.

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable residential house property bearing **Site No.18 (Eighteen),** PID No. 41-55-18, presently within the limits of Ward No. 157, **Gali Anjaneya Swamy Temple Ward, 3rd Main Road, Byatarayanapura Layout,** formed in Khata No. 35/1, Avalahalli, Corporation 24th Division, Bangalore City, measuring East to West : 22-0 Feet, North to South : 40-0 Feet, totally measuring **880 Square Feet,** along with 6 squares RCC Roofed house at Ground Floor, 2 Square A.C. Sheet House at First Floor, Cement Flooring, Jungle Wood Doors & Windows with all civic amenities house building thereon and bounded as follows :

East by : Remaining portion in same property, belongs to someone else.
West by : Site No.17.
North by : Road.
South by : Site No. 19

K.S. Raghuram B.Com., L.L.B., **Advocate**
Pro Legal. #524, 10th Main, 33rd Cross,
IV Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560 011
M : 9844109456, prolegalblr@gmail.com
Bangalore Date : 29-08-2024

THE HINDU
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IN THE LIMELIGHT

Living nightmare: The xenomorph in a scene from *Alien: Romulus*. AP

The biomechanical horrors of the xenomorph in the 'Alien' movie franchise

The iconic titular hellspawn from the 'Alien' franchise is both phallic and feminine, both predator and parasite, a creature that subverts and perverts the very idea of reproduction. It is, as its creator intended, a living nightmare

Ayaan Paul Chowdhury

A Swiss artist whose name has become synonymous with the very concept of bionic horrors – Hans Ruedi Giger – forever altered the landscape of science fiction with the creation of the xenomorph. Emerging from the shadows in Ridley Scott's 1979 sci-fi cult classic, the titular alien has since become a symbol of primal terror, its grotesque elegance and relentless carnage tapping into the darkest recesses of the human psyche. But to understand the xenomorph, one must first delve into the mind of its creator, whose distinct biomechanical art style gave birth to one of the most iconic monsters in cinematic history.

Origin story

Born in Chur, Switzerland, in 1940, Giger was raised in the aftermath of the war. His early years were marred by vivid nightmares. But rather than succumb to these fears, Giger embraced them, channelling his anxieties into art that defied convention and embraced the bizarre. These early experiences laid the foundation for what would become his signature style. His work, which he termed "biomechanical," was a macabre vision of a future where the boundaries between flesh and machine had all but dissolved in disturbingly erotic ways, leaving behind a surreal world that had a strange beauty to its menace.

Giger's influences were varied. The surrealist master Salvador Dalí recognised a kindred spirit in the Swiss man and was instrumental in bringing Giger's talents to the attention of the Chilean filmmaker Alejandro Jodorowsky, who in-turn enlisted him for the infamously ill-fated *Dune* project. Though the film never came to fruition, Giger's concept art for Dune remained testament to his ability to conjure unsettling realities.

However, it was Giger's 1977 book *Necronomicon* – a collection of his most disturbing and evocative works – that would ultimately catch the eye of Ridley Scott as he was preparing to bring Dan O'Bannon's script for *Alien* to life. One look at the dark, elongated being with an oblong head in Giger's lithograph Necronom IV, and Scott knew he had found his monster.

The original xenomorph that terrorised the crew of the Nostromo in 1979 was a creature of elegance and efficiency, straddling the line between the organic and the synthetic. The creature's sleek, black, phallic exoskeleton, dripping with a glistening sheen, and brought to life by Italian special effects designer Carlo Rambaldi, was just as beautiful as it was terrifying – a stark contrast to the clumsy bug-eyed invaders of previous genre films. It was a creature that did not need to be understood – only feared.

The evolution of the xenomorph

Giger's original design, however, was only the beginning. Over the years, as the franchise expanded, so too did the xenomorph's many forms. Each new iteration of the alien, while retaining the core elements of Giger's original design, introduced new variations that reflected the changing themes of the films.

In James Cameron's 1986 sequel *Aliens*, the xenomorphs were reimagined as part of a eusocial hive, led by a towering Queen – a regal matriarch whose sole purpose was to propagate her species by any means necessary. This Queen, with her massive egg-laying ovipositor and crown-like crest, was an unholy fusion of insect and machine, of motherhood twisted into something horrifying.

The xenomorph's next evolution came in David Fincher's *Alien 3* (1992), where it took on the traits of its host. The "Runner Alien," also known as the "Dog Alien," was born from a quadrupedal host, and as such, it adopted a more animalistic form. Sleek, fast and feral, this version of the xenomorph was a predator that hunted on all fours, its movements fluid and graceful, yet no less deadly. It was here that the xenomorph began to show its versatility, a creature that could adapt, becoming whatever it needed to survive.

But it was in *Alien: Resurrection* (1997) that the xenomorph underwent its most radical transformation. Genetic tampering had given rise to a new breed of alien, one that bore disturbing traces of its human creators. The Newborn, as it was called, was a grotesque parody of humanity – a creature with pale, translucent skin, a skull-like face, and eyes that stared with unsettling intelligence. Born of scientific hubris, this creature was a reminder that the xenomorph, like Giger's art, was constantly evolving and pushing the boundaries of what was possible – and what was terrifying.

The evolutions of course, were far from over. In Scott's prequels, which began with *Prometheus* (2012) and continued with *Alien: Covenant* (2017), the creature was reimagined yet again, this time as a precursor to the xenomorph we know today. The Deacon, a creature birthed from a race of god-like beings known as Engineers, was a pale, elongated entity characterised by eel-like jaws. Its life cycle closely mirrored that of the xenomorph, but with a more streamlined and less biomechanical design. *Covenant*'s Neomorph was even more divergent, its pale-white skin, pointed head and spiny back, a stark contrast to the sleek black of the original xenomorph.

In Fede Alvarez's latest *Alien: Romulus*, a horrifying climactic reveal bore us what has since been dubbed "The Offspring," a fusion of xenomorph DNA and human genetics that's unleashed when an ill-fated character injects a sinister Newtonian serum into their neck. The towering Romanian basketball phenom Robert Bobroczkyi, donned prosthetics, animatronics, and just a touch of CGI to bring this violently birthed creation to life, which rapidly evolves into an eight-foot terror with fleshy skin, obsidian eyes, a tail, and that signature xenomorph tongue – dorsal tubes and all.

Yet, despite these many variations, the core of Giger's design has remained intact. Having endured more than four decades of cinematic evolution, Giger's mesmerising incubus continues to adapt, its many forms a reminder of our mortality, of the fragility of the human body, and of the horrors that lie beneath the surface of our conscious minds.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Today marks the ninth anniversary of the assassination of scholar and rationalist M.M. Kalburgi by suspected fundamentalists. Here's a quiz on famous rationalists

Srinivasan Ramani

QUESTION 1

Founder of the Committee for the Eradication of Blind Faith (Maharashtra Andhashraddha Nirmoolan Samiti) after leaving his medical practice, he was also the editor of the Marathi weekly magazine *Sadhana*, which promoted scientific temperament and liberal thought. Name this rationalist who took up cudgels against religious superstition and was also assassinated in 2013.

QUESTION 2

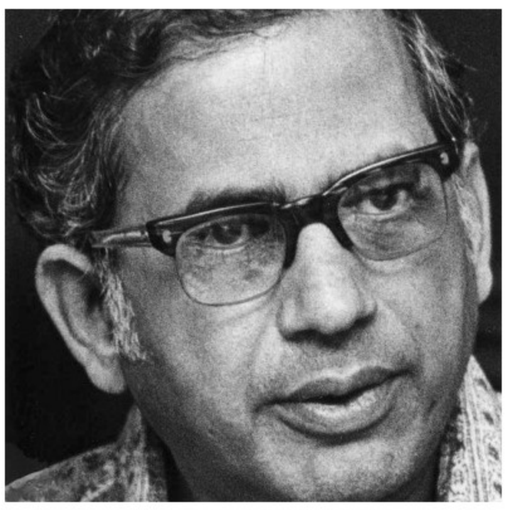
Name the Indian philosopher who lived in the 6th century BC and is considered the first known proponent of "Indian materialism", also understood to be the forerunner of the Charvaka school of materialist philosophy.

QUESTION 3

Lokayata philosophy (otherwise known as Charvaka) was propounded by a prominent atheist school in ancient India. Although there has been a loss of original works in the tradition and is quoted largely through secondary texts or critiques, there have been contemporary assessments. Name the Indian Marxist whose book, *Lokayata: A Study in Ancient Indian Materialism* is widely quoted.

QUESTION 4

One of the foremost proponents of rationalism in public life and the forerunner of a successful political movement in India, this person led an organisation that is now presided by a nonagenarian leader, K Veeramani. Name him.



Visual question:
Name this prominent scientist, one of the authors of *A Statement on Scientific Temper*. THE HINDU

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The predecessor of the Paralympics was called this. The first Paralympics was held in this year and this place. **Ans: The Stoke Mandeville Games; Rome in 1960.**
2. The only sports in the Paralympic programme that do not have an Olympic counterpart. **Ans: Boccia and goalball**
3. The unique distinction of Pal Szekeres. **Ans: Only athlete to win both Olympic and Paralympic medals**
4. This athlete is the most decorated Paralympian of all time. **Ans: American swimmer Trischa Zorn**
5. Since this edition, the Olympic and Paralympic Games have been held in the same city. **Ans: 1988**
6. Agitos in the context of the Paralympic Games. **Ans: It is the symbol of the Games made up of three waves**
7. This is special about the category of medallists in para athletics, para triathlon, and para cycling. **Ans: The guides and pilots are also awarded medals**
8. Apart from para swimming, these two disciplines are open to athletes with an intellectual disability. **Ans: Para athletics and para table tennis**
Visual: Identify this man. **Ans: Murlikant Petkar in 50m freestyle swimming**
Early Bird: Seema Das

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Congratulations. I hear you've been made captain of the cricket team."

Who told you that?"

"Your grandfather."

"I'm sorry to say this, you've been disinformed."

"You mean 'misinformed,' don't you?"

"Disinformed or misinformed. They mean the same thing, don't they?"

"First of all, the word is 'disinformation' not 'disinformed.' It is only the noun form 'disinformation' that is generally used."

"Well, I know the meaning of 'misinform'; so tell me what 'disinformation' means."

"Before I do that, you tell me what you understand by 'misinform'."

"It means giving somebody the wrong information about something."

"Excellent. But that's only part of the meaning."

"What do you mean?"

"You see when you misinform someone, you can give him the wrong information either intentionally or unintentionally."

"In other words, I can give you the wrong information deliberately or unintentionally. Now tell me, what does 'disinformation' mean?"

"The act of spreading false information deliberately."

"Spreading false information deliberately! But who would do that?"

"Spies."

"Spies! You mean secret agents like James Bond?"

"Exactly. One of the jobs of secret agents is to give false information to foreign agents so that it confuses or misleads them. In fact, the word 'disinformation' was once mainly used in the spy business."

"Really? That sounds really exciting."

"But things are beginning to change now. The word 'disinformation' is beginning to be frequently used in the world of business and politics."

"Business and politics, eh? That's understandable. Disinformation would certainly come in handy there. There are so many lies being told in business and politics that no one really knows what the truth is."

"By the way, 'disinformation' is not found in all dictionaries. And the ones that contain it define it as 'deliberately false information especially given out by governments or services'. You generally talk about the 'disinformation campaign' by governments or political parties."

"Well my grandfather doesn't work for the government or the secret service. So I guess he misinformed you about my being made captain."

"Was I misinformed deliberately or unintentionally?"

'I have to ask my grandfather."

"Where will you find him?"

"Where else? In the bedroom, watching T.V."

"Your grandfather is a couch potato, isn't he?"

"Couch potato? What do you mean?"

"A couch potato is a very lazy person. Someone who prefers to sit down and watch T.V. rather than do something."

"That does sound like my grandfather."

Published in The Hindu on March 23, 1993.

Word of the day

Insalubrious:
detrimental to health

Synonym: unhealthy

Usage: *The area was deemed insalubrious, so tourism there is quite slow.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/insalubriouspro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ɪnsə'lu:bɹɪəs/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED

Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.
Ph.: 04324-277001 (10 Lines). Email: pmd.civil@tnpl.co.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
242513 002956	Providing concrete road in front of LSFM gate and road leading to "C" yard at TNPL Unit-I.	14.09.2024
242513 002963	Interior renovation works in purchase department at TNPL Unit-I.	14.09.2024

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website & NIC Portal only. Detailed Terms & conditions, Tender fee, EMD, etc., are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from websites : **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**

DIPR/3368/Tender/2024 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in (Mobile No. 96461-22067)

E-Tender Enq. No. 560/P-1/EMPW-12773 dated: 28.08.2024
Dy. Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Procurement Cell-1) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2024_POWER_126265_1 for the work of Routine Cleaning, Sweeping & up keeping of Roads, Paths, Berms and maintenance of Sewerage System of Nuhon Colony & Power colony at GGSSTP Rupnagar. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 28.08.2024/ 05:00 PM onwards.
Note: - Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in
RTP - 103/24 **76155/12/3367/2023/37125**

SARDAR SAROVAR NARMADA NIGAM LIMITED

(A Wholly Owned Government of Gujarat Undertaking)

Work under the Executive Engineer,
Narmada Project Canal Dn No.3, Dabhoi.
Tender Notice No.3 of 2024-2025

Name of work:-

1.0 Cleaning, maintenance and repair work of Distributary and Minor Canals Under Block No.6A1 for the year-2024-25.
2.0 Cleaning, maintenance and repair work of Distributary and Minor Canals under Block No.6A2 & 6B(PBC) for the year 2024-25.
3.0 Cleaning, maintenance, and repair work of Distributory and Minor Canals under Block No.6B and 6C for the year-2024-25.
4.0 Cleaning, Maintenance and Repair work of Distributary and Minor canal under Block No. 6D1, 6A4 and 6E for the year-2024-25.
5.0 Cleaning, maintenance and repair work of distributary and minor canals under Block No.8 for the year-2024-25.

Estimate Amount:
(1) Rs. 78.84 lakhs.
(2) Rs. 198.60 lakhs
(3) Rs. 123.46 lakhs
(4) Rs. 98.86 lakhs
(5) Rs. 125.39 lakhs

(iii) Last Date/Time of Online bid submission: Dt.09.09.2024, Up to 18.00 hrs

For Further details please visit website;
https: www.tender.nprocure.com

(INF-VAD-560-24-25)

TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED

Unit - 1 : Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist.
Tamil Nadu. Ph.: 04324 - 277001 (10 Lines)
Unit - 2 : Mondipatti - 621 306, Trichy District,
Tamil Nadu, Ph.: 04332 - 261600

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Scope of work	Due date
242513 002928	Annual Rate Contract for procurement of H.M. Transmission spares	16.09.2024
242513 003019	Multicolour Laminated Wrapper Reels of various sizes (Base 80 GSM with 10 Micron Polyester).	12.09.2024
242533 000192	Procurement of Gypsum	14.09.2024
242533 000193	Procurement of PP Bag for Power Bond Cement Packing (SIZE : 29.3" x 20.5")	14.09.2024
242523 001830	Procurement of Heavy Duty LDPE Shrink Film of various sizes for TNPL, Unit - II.	17.09.2024
Email	242513002928 - purchase.auto@tnpl.co.in 242513003019 - purchase.packing@tnpl.co.in 242533000192 ; 0193 - purchse.lsfm@tnpl.co.in 242523001830 - purchasepacking.u2@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website and NIC Portal only. Detailed requirements, Period, Terms & conditions, Tender fee, EMD, etc., are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from websites : **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**

DIPR/3365/Tender/2024 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಕೃಷಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ

ಜಂಟಿ ಕೃಷಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕೃಷಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಡಳಿತ ಭವನ, ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ
ದೂ.–08539–221633 ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ : 220226

JDAK/OS/AVP/3/2024-25/341 Date:29.08.2024

Tender Notification

Joint Director of Agriculture Koppal is invites Man Power supply agencies for the supply Data Entry Operator-07, Driver-02, "D" group-08, Lab Technician-01 and Cook-01 **Total-19** Karntaka Transparency in public procurement act 1999 Through e-procurement for one year under Against Vacancy Position(AVP) of 2024-25. Interested Bidders are visit e-procurement portal **http.//kppp.karnataka.gov.in .**
1) Tender publishing date: **29.08.2024**. 2) Aproximate tender Annual cost: **51,38,133/-**. 3) EMD Amount : **1,00,000**. 4) Last Date for submition of tender : **09.09.2024**. 5) Time, Date and Place opening of technical bid : Date: **12.09.2024**, Time:11:00 AM, Place: Joint Director of Agriculture Office, Koppal. 6) Time, Date and Place Opening of Financial bid : Date: **17.09.2024**, Time:11:00 AM, Place: Joint Director of Agriculture Office, Koppal

Sd/-
Joint Director of Agriculture
Koppal

DIPR/Koppal/281/DeshpandePublicity/2024-25

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited

(A Joint Venture of GoI & GoK)
E-mail: contracts@bmrc.co.in Website: www.bmrc.co.in

Tender No: BMRCL/Phase-2/Horticulture & landscaping works /2024/113 Dated: 30.08.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION

On behalf of the Managing Director/ BMRCL, the General Manager (Contracts) invites open e-tenders from eligible applicants, who fulfill the prescribed eligibility cum qualification criteria (EQC) for the proposed work of **"Planning, Designing & Execution of Area Development, Horticulture & Landscaping Works at Whitefield Depot and Hebbagodi Depot of Bangalore Metro Rail Project, Phase-2".** Estimated Tender Value: **Rs. 3.18 Cr.** Tender fees: **Rs. 11,800/-. EMD** (Tender Security): **Rs 4.77 Lakhs.** Download/ Sale of tender documents: from **30.08.2024 (From 03.00 P.M) to 08.10.2024 (Up to 3.00 P.M.),** Date and time of submission of e-tenders: **01.10.2024 (From 10.00AM) to 08.10.2024 (Up to 3.00 P.M.)**, Date and time of opening of e-tenders: **09.10.2024** at **3.00 P.M.,** For more details, visit our e-tendering website: **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app** from **30.08.2024** onwards.

The Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) will also be available in our website **www.bmrc.co.in.**

Sd/- General Manager (Contracts)

KARNATAKA RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Grameenabhivruddhi Bhavana, 4th & 5th Floor, Ananda Rao Circle, Bengaluru-09.
No.: KRIDL/ADM/OUTSOURCE/TND/2024-25/Call-2 Date: 29.08.2024

RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION FOR PROVIDING MANPOWER SERVICES

(Through Government of Karnataka e-procurement portal only)

e-Tender is invited in two cover system from interested Bidders/Service providers who have adequate manpower resources and experience for supply of Manpower Services to KRIDL, on outsourced basis for a period of **02 year.** The details are as below:

Sl. No.	Tender Notification No.	Particulars	Amount put to Tender per year	EMD Amount put to Tender
1	No. KRIDL/ADM/ OUTSOURCE/TND/2024-25/ CALL-2/Dt. 29.08.2024	Providing Manpower Service to the various offices under of KRIDL	Rs. 45.00 Crores (approx.)	Rs. 45.00 Lakhs

For more details regarding each Tender Notification please visit e-procurement portal **(www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in).** Last date for enquiry **is 12.09.2024 up to 14.00 hrs.** Last date and time for receipt of tender **12.09.2024 up to 16.00 hrs.** Date of Opening of Technical Bid is **on 17.09.2024 at 16.00 hrs.** Date of Opening of Financial Bid is **on 18.09.2024 at 16.00 hrs.** More details can be had from the Chief Administrative Officer, KRIDL, Hqrs., Contact Landline: 080-28015607.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Bengaluru), KRIDL.

THE HUTTI GOLD MINES COMPANY LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Hutti-584115, Raichur Dist, Karnataka State, Tele: **08537-275463, 276339** Fax: **08537-275048/ 275054**
e-Mail: **material276339@gmail.com,** Website: **www.huttigold.karnataka.gov.in**

TENDER NOTIFICATION No. 11/24-25 Dt: 30.08.2024 (Through KPP Portal only)

Tender is invited by " Senior Manager (Materials)" for the procurement of following items from reputed manufacturers/ authorized dealers as detailed below.

Sl. No.	Description	Approx. Value Rs. in Crores	EMD in Rs.
1	Supply of Various Sizes of 1.1 KV Double Armoured CopperCables. **HGML/2024-25/IND0221.**	1.14	1,71,000/-
2	Construction of Retaining Wall and Open Drain at New Dump. **HGML/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT83**	1.25	1,88,000/-
3	Supply of Sag Mill Full Set of Liners. **HGML/2023-24/IND0155/CALL-3**	3.81	5,72,000/-

Calendar of events: **(1)** Pre-Bid Meetings (Zoom): 1**6.09.2024 for Sl.No.1 at 10.30 a.m., Sl.No.2 at 11.00 am. and 05.09.2024 for Sl.No. 03 at 10.30 a.m. (2)** Last date for receipt of tender : **27.09.2024 at 4.00 p.m. for Sl.No. 1 & 2 and 07.09.2024 at 4.00 p.m. for Sl.No. 03. (3)** Opening of Technical Bid on : **30.09.2024 at 10.00 a.m. for Sl.no. 1 & 2 and 09.09.2024 at 10.00 a.m. for Sl.No. 03.**

For further details interested bidders are advised to logon to website **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or contact the office of undersigned during working hours. For participating in the above tender bidder needs to be registered in KPP Portal.

Sd/- Senior Manager (Materials)

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RASHTRIYA MILITARY SCHOOLS
APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO CLASS VI AND CLASS IX
(ACADEMIC SESSION 2025-26)

CORRIGENDUM

1. Please refer RMSs advt published in THE HINDU and VIJAY KARNATAKA News papers on 20 Aug 2024.
2. Closing date for online submission of application form and payment of application fee has been extended till 19 September 2024(20:00hrs).
3. Website for reference: https://apply-delhi.nielit.gov.in/.

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in (Mobile No. 96461-55525)

Short Term E-Tender Enq. No. 561/P-3/EMPW-12796 dated: 29.07.2024
Dy. Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Procurement Cell-3) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2024_POWER_126281_1 for Replacement of old HP heater No. 5 and 6 of unit-6 with spare HP heaters dismantled from stage-1 at GGSSTP.
For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from dated 29.08.24/02:00 PM onwards.
Note: - Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in
RTP - 104/24 **76155/12/3369/2023/37127**

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.

Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001.
Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website www.pspcl.in (Contact No. 96461-01116)

Tender Enquiry No. 04/G.C./T.S./PSPCL/2024-25 **Dated: 30.08.2024**

Dy.CE/Grid Construction, opp. PAU Gate no.1, PSPCL, Ludhiana invites Open e-Tender for outsourcing of Augmentation of Power Transformers related works on partial turnkey mode under RDSS scheme under Grid Construction Division Amritsar under Grid Construction Circle, Ludhiana.
For detailed NIT & Tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 30.08.2024 (01:00 PM onwards).
Note: Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in
C-632/24 **76155/12/3370/2023/37128**

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಶಸ್ತ್ರಚಿಕಿತ್ಸಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಾಂಕ್ರಾಮಿಕ ರೋಗಗಳ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು
ದೂ.ಸಂ: 0821–2517555 ಇ–ಮೇಲ್ ವಿಳಾಸ mysoreds@gmail.com
ಸಂ: ಜಿಆ&ಸಾಂರೋಆಮೈ/ಪಥ್ಯಾಹಾರ/ಟೆಂ/01/2023–24 ದಿ: 27.08.2024

ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಾಂಕ್ರಾಮಿಕ ರೋಗಗಳ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಇಲ್ಲಿಗೆ 2024–2025 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಒಳರೋಗಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಿದ್ಧಪಡಿಸಿದ ಪಥ್ಯಾಹಾರ ಹಾಗೂ ಬ್ರೇಡ್ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡಲು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪ್ಲಾಟ್‌ಫಾರ್ಮ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅವಧಿಯು ಆದೇಶ ನೀಡುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ದಿಂದ ದಿ: 31.03.2025 ರವರೆಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಒಟ್ಟು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೌಲ್ಯ ರೂ.84,63,000=00ಗಳು, E-Portel ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಲಕೋಟೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿ: 04.09.2024. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in. ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ವಿಳಾಸದ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಶಸ್ತ್ರಚಿಕಿತ್ಸಕರು

DIPR/DDMYS-483/KSMCA-325/2024-25

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Department of Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development
Office of the Executive Engineer
M.I. & GWD Division, Mysore

TENDER NOTIFICATION NO: 03 /2024-25, Dated: 26.08.2024

On behalf of the Governer of Karnataka, the Executive Engineer, M.I. & GWD Division, Mysore invites tenders from registered and eligible contractors under " Kppp " Portal as per the terms and conditions prescribed in standard tender documents of KW4 for TWO work on turn key basis amount put ot tender Rs 50.00 Crore's and Rs 65.00 Crore's. The other tender details are given below. Any information regarding this tender may be obtained from this office during office hours up to: Date: 26.09.2024 – 5-00 PM. Pre Bid Meeting: Date: 27.09.2024 – 11-00 AM At Office of the Superintending Engineer, MI & GWD Circle, Mysuru. Last date to upload the tenders with the prescribed E.M.D and requisite documents through website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in: Date: 30.09.2024 – 5-00 PM. The bids will be opened: Date: 03.10.2024 – 11-00 AM.

Note: All the rights are reserved for postponement or cancellation of all bids or any individual bids of this tender notification without assigning any reasons by the under signed. The terms and conditions for each work is published in the "Kppp" Tender Portal. Any corrigendum pertains to above tender will be published in e-Procurement Portal only.

DIPR/DDMYS-471/KSMCA-316/2024-25 **Sd/- Executive Engineer**

KARNATAKA RURAL ROAD DEVELOPMENTAGENCY

Office of the Executive Engineer, Project division Raichur
e-mail: kn-rai@pmgsy.nic.in Web site : http://www.krrda.in

NO. EE/PDRCR/KKRDB/Short Term Tender/2024-25/ 547 Dt: 28-08-2024

SHORT TERM TENDER-07

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, EE Project Division Karnataka Rural Road Development Agency-Raichur, invites Item Rate Tenders in Raichur District through e- procurement under KKRDB 2023-24 fund (As per guidelines of KW-3).

Calendar of Events of tendering is as follows:

1)EMD: As per KPPP portal **2) Name of work & Indent No:** KRRDA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT89/Call-2 KRRDA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT96/Call-2 **3) Accessing the bid document on e- procurement portal from**: 30-08-2024 **4) Last date for online submission of Technical Bids:** 06-09-2024 (16.00 Hours) **5) Opening of Technical Bid:** 09-09-2024 (10:30 Hours) **6) Opening of Financial Bid:** Will be intimated later on **7) Contractor Category:** As mentioned in KPPP portal **8) For Information:** Executive Engineer, Project Division, Raichur. 9) For Further details: https://www. kppp.karnataka.gov.in

DIP/RCR/315/KSMCA/314/2024-25

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Project Division, Raichur

THE HUTTI GOLD MINES COMPANY LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Hutti - 584 115, Raichur Dist., Karnataka State. Tele: (08537) 275463, 276339
Fax: (08537)275048, 275054, e-Mail: **material276339@gmail.com** Website: **www.huttigold.karnataka.gov.in**

Tender Notification No. 12/24-25, Dt: 30.08.2024 (Through KPP Portal only)

Tender is invited by "The Senior Manager (Materials)" for the procurement of following items from reputed manufacturers / authorized dealers as detailed below.

Sl. No.	Description	Approx. value Rs. in Lakhs	EMD in Rs.
1	Supply of unbalance motors. **HGML/2024-25/IND0219.**	17.39	43,500/-
2	Construction of security watch tower at mining area premises. **HGML/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT79.**	25.68	51,500/-
3	Construction of RCC precast compound wall around electrical substations at Hutti. **HGML/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT81.**	22.34	45,000/-
4	Restoration of existing stone masonry wall around mining area. **HGML/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT80**	35.05	70,000/-
5	Supply of NONEL, SHOCKTUBE LENGTH-3M,5M,7M,10M. **HGML/2024-25/IND0208.**	25.88	52,000/-
6	Providing and fixing aluminium partition at cyanide section. **HGML/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT82**	9.99	25,000/-
7	Supply of various size Hard Wear Plates. **HGML/2024-25/ IND0231.**	69.30	1,39,000/-
8	Supply of various types of Unbalanced Vibrator Motors. **HGML/2024-25/IND0201/CALL-2.**	7.20	18,000/-
9	Supply of XRF Gold Purity Analyzer along with Accessories. **HGML/2024-25/IND0224.**	32.14	64,000/-
10	Supply of Hardox Wear Plates For Circular Shaft Bin And Skip. **HGML/2024-25/IND0222.**	47.67	95,000/-
11	Supply of Tire Handler for UG Use. **HGML/2024-25/IND0216.**	68.17	1,36,000/-
12	Supply of SS screen 20 mesh 304 GR. **HGML/2024-25/IND0242.**	13.45	34,000/-
13	Amalgamation Preparation of Mining plan & Obtaining Environmental Clearance, CFE & CFO in respect of Uti Gold Mining lease. **HGML/2024-25/SE0032.**	40.00	80,000/-

Calendar of events: 1) Last date for receipt of tender: **13.09.2024 at 4.00 P.M. 2)** Opening of Technical Bid on: **16.09.2024 at 10.00 A.M.**

For further details interested bidders are advised to log on to website **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or contact the office of undersigned during working hours. For participating in the above tender bidder needs to be registered in KPP portal.

Sd/- Senior Manager (Materials)

"LEADING GOLD PRODUCER IN INDIA"

HUBBALLI-DHARWAD BRTS COMPANY LTD., HUBBALLI.

CIN: U60200KA2012SGC063887
Phone No: 0836–2222007/2222008, e-mail :hdbrtsfin@gmail.com

No: HDBRTS/FIN/FD/2024-25/283 Date: 29-08-2024

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION Seeking Rate of Interest for Fixed Deposits

Hubballi-Dharwad BRTS Company Ltd., Hubballi intends to park / retain the Fixed Deposits. The eligibility criteria and other necessary details are available in the e-Portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. The interested Banks meeting eligibility criteria may participate in the e-bidding process from **29-08-2024** and the last date to submit the bid is **05-09-2024 at 17.00 Hours**.

Sd/- Managing Director
Hubballi-Dharwad BRTS Company Ltd., Hubballi.

DIPR/Dharwad/317/ Adverto/2024-25

CITY CORPORATION BELAGAVI

C.T.S. No. 4821/26, 4821/27, R.S No. 1005, Subhasha Nagara, Belagavi, Ph.: 0831-2405304, Email: itstaff_ulb_belgaum@yahoo.com
Website: www.belgaumcity.mrc.gov.in

No. : CCB/HLT/EE/SWM/TND/E-proc-03/2024-25 Date : 27-08-2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Karnataka Public Procurement Portal)

The Commissioner, City Corporation Belagavi invites tenders in accordance with KTPP Act 1999 Rules 2000 through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for procurement of **11 different type of Vehicles and Machineries** approved for Solid Waste Management under the 15th finance for the year 2023-24 & 2024-25 & **Non-Millon Plus Cities** fund for the year 2021-22. **The Last Date for the Submission of tender is 17-09-2024.**

For more details visit online **Website (https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** Any Addendum / Corrigendum will be published in Karnataka Public Procurement portal only.

Sd/- Commissioner,
City Corporation Belagavi.

DIPR/Belagavi/709/Manipal/2024-25

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ

ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರ ಕಚೇರಿ(ಐ.ಟಿ)

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಆದೇಶ 1999–2000 ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಆ್ಯಕ್ಟ 2000 ರ ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಧೀಕೃತ ವಿಜನ್ಸಿದಾರರು/ ಪರವಾನಿಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ / ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರರು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ ಪೊರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. **ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಸೂಚನೆಗಳು:–** ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಗಳನ್ನು ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು.ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರ (ಐ.ಟಿ) ಇವರ ಕಚೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 0836–2251955 ಮತ್ತು ಅಂತರ್‌ಜಾಲದ ಮೂಲಕ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಸದರ ಟೆಂಡರ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ–ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟನಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ:**30–08–2024** ರಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಸದರಿ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು

ಅ ನ	ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಯ ಅವಧಿ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಟೆಂಡರ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ
1	28462	15,65,500.00	15 ದಿನಗಳು	06.09.2024 ಮುಂಜಾನೆ 11:00	07.09–2024 ಮುಂಜಾನೆ 11:30
2	22939	7,00,000.00	3 ತಿಂಗಳು	13.09.2024 ಸಂಜೆ 04:00	14.09.2024 ಸಂಜೆ 04:30
3	27727	20,00,000.00	3 ತಿಂಗಳು		

ಸಹಿ/–
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಐ.ಟಿ)
ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಇ/ಧಾರವಾಡ/322/ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆಪಬ್ಲಿಸಿ/2024–25

RAICHUR POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

(YERAMARUS THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U40101KA2009PLC049582

TENDER NOTIFICATION

RPCL invites bids through GoK e-procurement platform **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for the following: **(1) KPCL/ 2024-25/EL/WORK_INDENT1667/Call-5, Dt: 24.08.2024 for RPCL-2x800MW YTPS-Repair Rewinding/Rectification of 11KV, 3800KW vertical CW Pump 1D motor of Unit#1 at Yeramarus TPS. (2) KPCL/ 2023-24/EL/WORK_INDENT 1315/Call-3, Dt: 23.08.2024 for Comprehensive maintenance of 05 no. of Universal make Rack & Pinion type lifts at YTPS CHP area for 2 Years.** Last date of receipt of tender: **02.09.2024 at 16.30 hrs** for Sl.No. (1) and **05.09.2024 up to 17.00 hrs** for Sl.No. (2). All other details can be accessed from e-procurement portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Further details can be had from office of the **Executive Engineer (E-1), M: 9480682551,** for Sl.No. (1) and **Executive Engineer (E-2),M: 9480830632, E-mail: eee4ytps@gmail.com** for Sl.No. (2), **RPCL-YTPS, Yeramarus-584134, Dist: Raichur.**

ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ

ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ
ನಂ.21/1, 1ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಜೆಲ್ಲೇಟಾ ಟವರ್, ಮಿಷನ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಸಂಪಂಗಿರಾಮನಗರ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560027. ಫೋನ್: 080–22240449 ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: dswourban@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಜನಿ.ಸ.ಕ.ಇ/ಬೆಂ(ನ)/ಲೆಕ್ಕ/ಒಆರ್–18/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30–08–2024

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

2024–25 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಡಿ **ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಮೆಟ್ರಿಕ್ ಪೂರ್ವ, ಮೆಟ್ರಿಕ್ ನಂತರ, ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆ, ಕಿತ್ತೂರು ರಾಣಿ ಚೆನ್ನಮ್ಮ, ಮೊರಾರ್ಜಿ ದೇಸಾಯಿ ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ** ಖಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ಅಡುಗೆಯವರು, ಅಡುಗೆ ಸಹಾಯಕರು ಮತ್ತು ರಾತ್ರಿ ಕಾವಲುಗಾರರು ಹಾಗೂ ಆಶ್ರಮ ಶಾಲೆಗಳು / ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ / ಕಛೇರಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಖಾಲಿ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ / ಅರೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಅಂಗೀಕೃತ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು, ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **02–09–2024** ರಿಂದ **12–09–2024** ರವರೆಗೆ **ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡುಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.** ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ **ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ನಂ. 21/1, 1ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಜೆಲ್ಲೇಟಾ ಟವರ್, ಮಿಷನ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಸಂಪಂಗಿರಾಮನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು – 560027 (ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080–22240449)** ಹಾಗೂ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನ್ನು ಪರಾಮರ್ಶಿಸುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು,
ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾ.ಪ್ರ/1722/ಆಡ್ಮಿನ್/2024–25

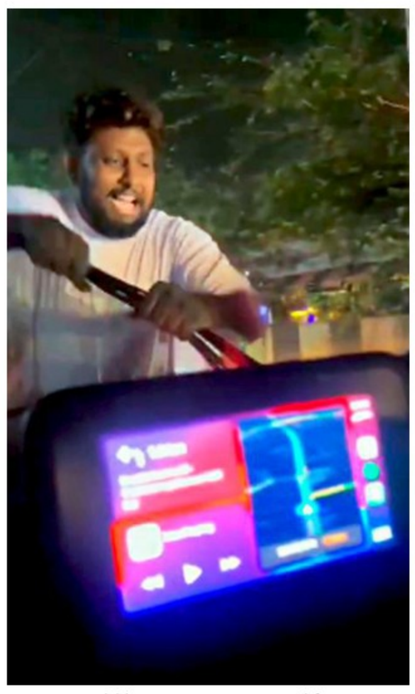
ILLUSTRATION: SEBASTIAN FRANCIS

Madding crowds and raging tempers

People flying off the handle in the thick of traffic and bitter fights erupting are not uncommon on Bengaluru roads. **Nalme Nachiyar** and **Darshan Devaiah B.P.** talk to victims of road rage, police, and psychologists on what leads to such situations and how they can be best handled

What was supposed to be the final leg of a relaxing weekend trip turned into a night of horror for Shivasharan (name changed) on August 19, 2024. The 36-year-old software engineer, his wife, and nine-month-old child were returning to Bengaluru when, in order to avoid bumping into the car in front of them, Shivasharan applied brakes near Sarjapur junction. However, 26-year-old Naveen Reddy, who was on a scooter behind them, crashed into their car. Then, all hell broke loose.

Even before Shivasharan could get out to assess the situation, Naveen was banging on the driver's side door, abusing and threatening him. Despite Shivasharan's appeals that his baby was onboard, the accused first tried to hurl a huge stone on the windshield before wrenching off one of the wipers, smashing it on the glass and shattering it.



A 26-year-old bouncer was arrested for damaging the vehicle of a software engineer in a road rage incident in Bengaluru on August 19. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The entire episode, captured on his dashcam and a mobile phone, went viral on social media. "The glass pieces were all over my wife and baby. It took us a while to process everything that transpired in those five minutes. The person was in such a rage that even though passers-by were trying to intervene, I thought we wouldn't get out of this alive," said Shivasharan, recounting the ordeal.

Bengaluru's traffic is infamous and legendary, and its recent by-product, road rage, a great leveller – from a senior citizen to an IPS officer, from an actor to a techie, to even an ambulance ferrying an accident victim – none has been spared.

> These situations often begin with minor incidents, like failure to give way or not using an indicator. These seemingly small issues can escalate into verbal arguments, physical altercations, or even vehicle damage.
>
> **B. DAYANANDA**
> Police Commissioner

Survey finds triggers

Fear, anxiety, and helplessness gripped Sahana (name changed), an HR professional, and her journalist husband when they were travelling from Madikeri to Mysuru in July 2023.

"A car nearly collided with ours near Hunsur at night, and when we tried to confront the driver, he verbally abused us. We did not want to escalate the situation, so we drove away, but he followed us to Mysuru, where he and three of his friends cornered us near a traffic signal. The group began banging on our car windows, leaving us terrified. One of them threw a stone at the driver's side window, shattering the glass and injuring my husband. They also broke the rear window. We went to the nearest police station and filed a complaint. It took us days to recover from the shock of the incident," she said.

According to one private survey, road rage was among the foremost triggers of anxiety for car owners in Bengaluru. Of the 22,000 car owners surveyed in the city, 57% revealed that they have experienced some road rage in the last six months. The other triggers included a struggle to find safe and legal parking (67%) and FASTag deactivation over failure to update Know Your Customer (KYC) details (22%).

More reporting by citizens

Addressing the issue of road rage in the city, Bengaluru Police Commissioner B. Dayananda said that it is difficult to definitively state whether such incidents are on the rise or decline but acknowledged that cases are being reported.

"These situations often begin with minor incidents, like a broken taillight, failure to give way, or not using an indicator. These seemingly small issues can escalate into verbal arguments, physical altercations, or even vehicle damage. We have been urging the public to respect other road users, as the road belongs to everyone, and everyone has a right to use it," he said.

According to data from Bengaluru City Police, the city reported 31 cases of road rage in 2023, with 57 persons being arrested. In 2024, 21 cases of road rage incidents were reported, and 24 arrests were made till August 20.

These numbers may seem low for a city of the size of Bengaluru. That is because most road rage cases are minor scuffles that one must shake off and move past in this sprawling metropolis. But even among those that are reported to the police, a majority are resolved through settlement. Moreover, road rage cases are not treated as a separate offence. "We do not classify road rage as a separate category of crime. Instead, it is typically addressed within the context of related issues such as accidents, physical assault or vehicle damage," Mr. Dayananda clarified.

The different kinds

The city is witness to two types of road rage. The first and most common is sudden accidental provocation, which in most cases leads to, and is limited to, heated verbal arguments. However, reports are not uncommon of such altercations snowballing into aggressive threats, physical assault, stabbing, pursuit, and even death.

For 21-year-old Mahesh, who worked as a delivery executive for a private firm, a joy ride on a bike with friends turned fatal. It began with a minor incident, but it escalated with the car chasing his two-wheeler, ramming into it and killing him on the spot at Saptagiri Layout in Vidyaranyapura on August 21.

The other type is intentional road rage, where miscreants stage accident-like situations and deliberately pick fights with and harass motorists in an attempt to extort money.

Sparsha (name changed), a teacher, had a harrowing experience during an auto ride to work. "We were at a signal when a bike rider came from behind and picked up a fight with the auto driver, falsely accusing him of running over his feet. The elderly auto driver told him that he hadn't moved since the signal turned red, but the biker started screaming expletives and harassing us. Even after we crossed the signal, the biker followed us for a long time, close to 2 km. I was paranoid about being followed for two days after that incident."

Taking note of the spate of such incidents, in August last year, Bengaluru Police had been directed to open rowdy sheets against troublemakers and track their activities. While 11 accused in road rage incidents were rowdy sheeted in 2023, no rowdy sheets have been opened in 2024 so far, according to the police data accessed by *The Hindu*.

City of distressed people

How did roads become the cause for such heightened angst and ill-temper?

Dr. Manoj Kumar Sharma, a clinical psychologist and coordinator of the SHUT Clinic at NIMHANS, attributed this to physical and emotional distress. "Road rage is a form of distress, which can be caused due to internal factors like personal commitments, a deadline to reach a particular destination or even fatigue. External factors like the condition of the road, traffic snarls, and consecutive red lights can also trigger distress," he said.

He also noted that people with novelty and adventure-seeking temperament also have a propensity to indulge in rash driving, disregarding road rules, leading to road rage. People who are emotionally dysregulated and impulsive because of distress can also have frequent brushes with road rage, he claims.

With road rage becoming a common sight, making even everyday commute a deeply risky proposition, the Bengaluru City Police have been actively reaching out to the public through social media, advising people not to lose their temper or engage in confrontations.

"If you find yourself in such a situation, stay calm and avoid arguments. Contact the police by dialling 112; we are just one call away and can reach you within a few minutes. If necessary, take photographs or note down the number plate, and when the police arrive, explain your side of the story and allow the other person to do the same. However, taking matters into your own hands by damaging vehicles or engaging in physical altercations is best avoided," Commissioner Dayananda advised.

How to avoid road rage

- If you are experiencing physical fatigue or emotional distress, address it before getting on the road, or avoid driving and use public transport
- Use navigation software like Google Maps to look for roads that have comparatively low congestion
- If you have a history of frequently flying into road rage, seek professional help to find the cause of any internal distress
- Treat red light at signals as a moment to relax and alleviate stress

How to safely handle road rage incidents

- Stay calm: Avoid aggressive reactions
- Document evidence: Record, photograph the incident or use dashcam
- Find safety: Drive to a secure, public area, take help of other people
- Call authorities: Report the situation to the police by calling 112
- File complaint: If the situation escalates, head to the closest police station

Road rage incidents

Year	No. of cases reported	No. of persons arrested	No. of rowdy sheets opened
2023	31	57	11
2024 (Till Aug. 20)	21	24	0

Source: City Crime Record Bureau, Bengaluru City Police

Little help

But for citizens like Harigovind, a communication professional, the efforts to reach out to the police during a road rage ended in disappointment.

In October 2023, when he and his family were returning from Goa, a speeding car tried to overtake and hit their vehicle near the end of the Nelamangala flyover. "A few other men accompanied the drunk driver. When he realised we are not Kannadigas, he started yelling, 'Speak in Kannada'. My wife, who works as an epidemiologist with the BBMP, knew Kannada and tried to reason with them. But by then, more of their friends had gathered. We got inside the car, locked it and tried calling the police."

Despite calling several helpline numbers, multiple times, there was no response from the police at all, says Harigovind. Even the women's helpline said the area was "not within their limits". For almost 30 minutes, the family was stranded as the driver and his gang of friends blocked the car before they finally dispersed after hurling a string of abuses.

"The next day, a policeman called and urged us to file an FIR. But they did not come when we needed them the most, so I did not pursue it. If police can be prompt and answer calls on time, people would feel more confident to file complaints. Otherwise, they feel disheartened," Harigovind says.

Rise in dashcam sales

As Bengaluru's choked, unpredictable roads turn into death traps, dashcam dealers in the city have witnessed a significant surge in demand for the device among car owners.

Praveen Kumar, a dashcam dealer on J.C. Road, mentioned that over the past year, the demand for the camera has steadily increased.

"We've seen a sharp rise in interest from vehicle owners, not just for basic models but also for advanced ones with features like night vision and real-time tracking. The market, which previously had only a few manufacturers, is now expanding with the entry of various brands, including well-established companies. This growth can be largely attributed to the rise in road rage incidents and accidents, as more people are keen to protect themselves with video evidence in case of any disputes on the road," Kumar explained.

Commissioner Dayananda also clarified that footage from dashcams is accepted as evidence in road rage cases. "Thanks to dashcams, what might have gone unnoticed before is now being recorded, which helps us in gathering evidence and conducting thorough investigations," he added.

How to diffuse situation

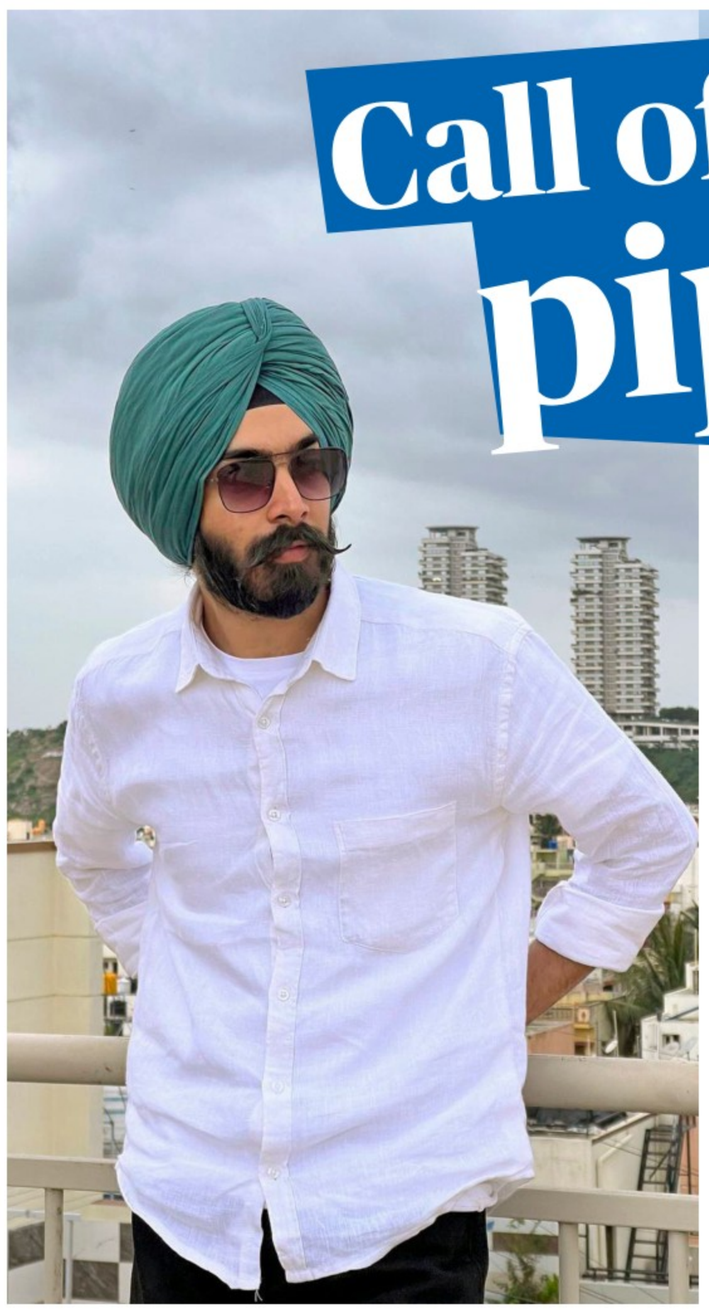
While the city explores ways to improve road infrastructure and tackle road lawlessness, citizens cannot afford to let their guard down. Devices like dashcams are of great help in the event of any untoward incident, but the reality is that most road rage factors are beyond control. So, is there a way to diffuse conflict even before it erupts?

"Take a breath," says Dr. Manoj. A long, deep breath can bring down emotional distress and impulsivity while on the road and help make rational decisions.

In Shivasharan's case, the police arrived at the scene in 10-15 minutes, and the accused was arrested the next day as well. But, he says, more than the physical effort of making multiple visits to the police station and the RTO, he is concerned about the mental trauma and financial toll that his family has been through.

"My wife and child were terrified. The baby had a panic attack and was down with a fever for three days after that. This is not the Bengaluru I once knew. Earlier, the perennial issue here was potholes, but today, anti-social elements are making our driving experience and daily life unsafe in the city," Shivasharan said.

Call of the piper



Composed by Arjun Janya and sung by Jaskaran Singh, the melody 'Dwapara' has turned into a sensation, drawing people to theatres in large numbers

Vivek MV
vivek.mv@thehindu.co.in

In 2021, performing at a private show for Bollywood music lovers in Bengaluru, Jaskaran Singh surprised his audience by singing 'Anisuthide Yako Indu' from one of Kannada's all-time blockbuster films *Mungaru Male* (2007), directed by Yogaraj Bhat. The film catapulted Ganesh to stardom, and the Sonu Nigam-sung melody has gone down in the history of Kannada cinema as one of the most celebrated love songs.

Three years later, Jaskaran has unlocked his biggest achievement yet by lending his voice for the melody 'Dwapara', featuring Ganesh and Malavika Nair, from the recently-released Kannada film *Krishnam Pranaya Sakhi*.

"My Spotify data tells me that the song has been heard by hundreds of people in Chandigarh, Delhi, and Haryana," says the Ludhiana native who has now become a favourite of Kannada film music lovers. Recognised by composer Arjun Janya at a reality show, Jaskaran had just sung one Kannada film song before this breakthrough track.

'Dwapara' has triggered a social media explosion, resulting in several lakhs of Instagram Reels set to its tune. With over 30 million views on YouTube, the number also drew people to watch the film in theatres, helping the movie become one of the highest-grossers of 2024 in Kannada.

Srinivas Raju, director of *Krishnam Pranaya Sakhi,* talks about his decision to treat the song as the only promotional bit of content before the film's release. "We didn't reveal a teaser or a trailer. I can't remember the last Kannada film to not even have a trailer! My team members felt I was taking a risk... but I stuck to it.

"For me, any promotional material is an invitation to the audience.

"So, I wanted to draw people to the movie halls with just one song. Because music is the backbone of any love story; be it in *A Star is Born* or *Hum Aapke Hain Koun...!,* the songs made the difference," he explains.

For music director Arjun Janya, the composition reflects the excitement of a man in love. "The protagonist sees this beautiful woman, and he is mesmerised by her. He wants the feeling to remain forever. That's why, if you notice, the song has a long *pallavi*," he says.

The *dholak* rhythms and the tuneful *shehnai* add a profound layer to the track. "The protagonist sees the heroine as a goddess. That's the brief I got from the director. So, instead of Indian classical, I went for Sufi music, marked by *tablas*, *dholaks*, and *shehnai*," offers Arjun Janya.

Srinivas Raju was particular about the sounds in the song. "In the last three to four years, we have heard a lot of high-voltage western music. I wanted Indian instruments for the song as I wanted it to keep it simple yet effective."

V Nagendra Prasad's lines blend perfectly with the song's hook tune. The words '*Jena Daniyole Meena Kannole*' (the one with a mellifluous sound and beautiful eyes) came easily to the mind of the experienced lyricist. "I just had to describe the hero's admiration towards his special one. The craze for the song has taught me that you have to keep it simple. People have an extra affection for songs with complete Kannada lyrics," he notes.

Shot in Bengaluru and the picturesque locales of Vietnam, 'Dwapara' is pleasing to the eyes as well. "I told the cinematographer (Venkat Prasad) to avoid weird angles and zig-zig movements. There has been an overdose of visual jerks in recent films thanks to action dramas, so I wanted to bring a semblance of calmness on-screen," says Srinivas Raju.

Ganesh also has a knack for expressing the exact emotion in a song, apart from his ability to add nuances in front of the camera to create magic on-screen. "It's refreshing to write a song for Ganesh sir because we know he enhances it brilliantly," says Nagendra Prasad. The actor, not particularly known for his dancing skills, has evidently impressed people with the hook steps in the song.

"We took four to five days to rehearse the steps," reveals Srinivas Raju.

The actor's career, stuck in a rut for a long time, has found a new lease of life with the success of *Krishnam Pranaya Sakhi,* and golden days are back, say relieved fans. One viral song has put the gifted actor back in the game; now it will be interesting to see his next step after this much-needed hit.

Winds of change Singer Jaskaran Singh (above) and actor Ganesh. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Spoilt for choice at Bengaluru's T2

High flying There are options galore at the new terminal. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The new terminal has Michelin Star winning brands such as Wolfgang Puck, as well as local favourites like Maiyas

Anagha Maareesha
anagha.maareesha@thehindu.co.in

Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport Terminal 2 opened its doors in early 2023. Now, a year after it opened, the terminal hosted its commercial launch in early August. Award-winning restaurants, bars, and retail outlets, with the swanky 080 lounge are now open to domestic travellers. We got a first-hand tour of the terminal.

T2 is home to India's first Wolfgang Puck restaurant. The award-winning Austrian chef has many Michelin stars to his name. The restaurant at the terminal has a limited menu of pizzas, salads and a few of his signature desserts. Some must-try dishes are WP Asian salad, Swiss omelette, the wild salmon, and the famous Basque cheesecake.

British chef and TV host James Martin also has his first Indian outlet at T2, called James Martin Kitchen. With the focus on British ingredients and baking, the menu has salads, sandwiches, wraps and rolls. A dish that stood out was the makhani chicken waffles.

The highlight of the terminal is the 080 domestic lounge. Keeping with the theme of showcasing the State's heritage, the lounge features art and architecture from the State. For example, their coffee kiosk, called Kodagu cafe, is themed around Coorg and its coffee culture.

The lounge's menu has been designed by celebrity chefs Ranveer Brar and Abhijit Saha and shines the spotlight on Indian ingredients. Additionally, the lounge includes a retro-style bar named Radio House and a well-equipped business centre.

Indian eats

For authentic Karnataka cuisine, guests can head to Maiyas. At T2, the brand has a beautifully designed restaurant with an Indian aesthetic and a menu of local heroes.

Gully Kitchen is another outlet you can go to for Indian fare or for a slightly more fusion style-Indian restaurant try Farzi Cafe. Fans of Bengaluru's RCB team can visit the RCB Bar and Cafe.

Johnny Rockets is an American franchise that specialises in diner-style burgers, fries and milkshakes. Another American staple at T2 is Hard Rock Cafe. With such a range of options, and an array of retail brands such as Montblanc and Hidesign, the terminal is hoping to pamper travellers before they board their flights.

STEPOUT

Menu with a world view

Chef Rafael Estremadoyro García presents Peruvian cuisine and cocktails in Bengaluru at Los Cavos, a new restaurant launched by V&RO Hospitality. The menu celebrates the richness of Peru, with a blend of Japanese, Spanish, and Italian influences globally known as Nikkei cuisine.

At CRED Aero, HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar

Caged melodies

As part of unwinding this weekend, enjoy an evening of music with Caged ft. Chaz, Seventh Sea, Anejath, Ezkape and Panja.

The evening will feature an eclectic line-up of music by these artistes who will be performing at Indiranagar SOCIAL.

On August 31, from 8pm. Tickets available on Insider.in. Call 8657896572/73 for details.

From Page One

DKS case: No jurisdiction to decide legality, says HC

It dismissed the petitions filed by the CBI and BJP MLA Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, who had questioned the legality of the withdrawal of sanction, particularly its retrospective application.

Stating that the CBI's petition is not maintainable before the High Court in view of Article 131 of the Constitution, the Bench granted liberty to the CBI to pursue appropriate remedies before the Supreme Court under Article 131 of the Constitution of India.

Shivakumar's case

The CBI had questioned the November 28, 2023, order of the State government in withdrawing the consent granted to it in November 2019, as withdrawal of consent prevented the investigating agency from completing its investigation into the ₹74.93-crore disproportionate assets case against Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar.

The CBI had contended that the withdrawal of consent does not affect pending investigations and that it is obligated to complete the investigation and file its final report. The CBI had also questioned the State government's December 22, 2023 order of transferring the FIR, registered by the CBI against Mr. Shivakumar, to the Karnataka Lokayukta police for investigation.

Centre Vs State

"The dispute, at its core, is between the CBI, representing the Union government, and the State government. Such disputes, which involve questions about the extent of the Central government's authority and the State's autonomy, are more appropriately addressed within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court under Article 131 of the Constitution of India," the Bench observed.

The Bench also observed that "the resolution of this dispute will directly impact the legal rights and jurisdiction of both the Central and State Governments, making it a fit subject for adjudication under the Supreme Court's original jurisdiction as per Article 131 of the Constitution of India".

The dispute, the Bench said, "essentially involves a conflict between the State government and the CBI, which operates under the superintendence of the Central government. The issues raised concern the interpretation of statutory provisions like the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act and the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, and their relationship with constitutional provisions regarding the division of powers between the Central and the State governments."

The origin of the case began in 2017 when the Income Tax Department raided the premises belonging to Mr. Shivakumar.

Karnataka pitches to 16th FC changes in criteria for calculating quantum of devolution of funds

Among other things, Karnataka has sought that the Centre share cesses/surcharges with States by considering them to be part of divisible pool

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Pitching for changes in the criteria for calculating the quantum of devolution of funds from the Centre to States, Karnataka strongly advocated addition of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) to the efficiency criterion and changes to the Constitution to make cesses/surcharges also part of divisible pool, besides seeking an increased share for the States from the Central pool.

The Congress Government in the State, which has been raising the Centre-State financial issues for over a year now, sought higher weightage for the "efficiency criteria over the equity criteria" in its presentation before the 16th Finance Commission panel on Thursday. While equity criteria has income distribution, population, and area among others, the efficiency criteria has demographic performance and tax collection effort. Karnataka has sought inclusion of the State's contribution to the GDP in the efficiency criteria while deciding on devolution of funds to States.

"Karnataka has sought a greater weightage for efficiency in addition to fiscal capacity that is measured by per capita income differences," chairperson of 16th Finance Commission Arvind Panagariya, who met Chief Minister Siddaramaiah earlier, told presspersons. "A large part of the pitch by the State government is that balance between equity and efficiency should be rejigged. Karnataka has suggested reduction of the weightage of equity for fiscal capacity that was 45 percentage points in the previous Finance Commission to 25 percentage points."

He acknowledged that Karnataka's views are different from the views of other States.

"Discussions were friendly. We understand the spirit behind Karnataka's submission. We are still early in the process of consultation and final decisions are quite far away," he said. Karnataka is the fifth State to be visited by the commission.

On cess and surcharge

The State has also urged the Finance Commission to recommend amendments to the Constitution to ensure cesses and surcharges imposed by the Centre to have specific purpose and for a specific period of time. It has also recommended to the Centre to share the cesses/ surcharges with the States by considering it to be part of divisible pool.

"At this stage, it is very difficult to give the view of the commission. Work is still ongoing," said Mr. Panagariya, adding that the commission had "an open mind and nothing is off the table". He, however, pointed out that the rationale behind the cesses/surcharges was to allow the Centre to raise revenues quickly in case of emergency such as war. "Past Finance Commissions have also been urged to take a view but they have not recommended for the precise reasons (to provide flexibility to Centre)."

Earlier, exuding confidence that the commission will provide fair and transparent recommendations, Mr. Siddaramaiah said the commission has to note the efficiency of the States. "Though Karnataka's population is 5% of country's population, it contributes 8.4% to the GDP and stands second in the country. However, it receives back just 15 paise for every rupee contributed to the country's tax revenue. The State has lost ₹79,770 crore in the period between 2021-2026 as 15th Finance Commission reduced its share from 4.713% to 3.647%, and it did not get ₹11,495 crore grant. There has been imbalance in devolution of funds to Karnataka when compared to others States," said Mr. Siddaramaiah.

He also estimated that Karnataka lost about ₹53,359 crore between 2017 and 2024 from what it could have got had the cess/surcharges been part of divisible pool. Reiterating the Karnataka's commitment to assist financially weaker States, Mr. Siddaramaiah said: "But it should not put its own people in trouble and affect financial stability of the State."

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah with 16th Finance Commission chairman Arvind Panagariya at a meeting in Bengaluru on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

What Karnataka has asked for

- Share with States 50% of Central divisible pool, which currently stands at 41%
- Cap on cesses and surcharges at 5% of the total tax income. Anything above 5% should be considered under divisible pool
- Set right anomaly of reduction in devolution between 14th and 15th Finance Commission by 1.66%
- Investment of ₹55,586 crore for Bengaluru over the next five years; ₹27,793 crore from the Centre
- Matching grant of ₹25,000 crore for development of Kalyana Karnataka region, while govt. has set aside same amount to overcome regional imbalance
- ₹10,000 crore to manage natural disaster, relief, and rehabilitation in the sensitive Western Ghats

What State could get

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

If the 16th Finance Commission accepts Karnataka's recommendations to re-calibrate the criteria for devolution of funds, the State could get slightly above 1% increase in the total devolution that could translate to over ₹70,000 crore over five years.

A senior Finance Department official said that though these calculations were not shared with the commission, the State could benefit substantially as it could get 4.8% in the horizontal devolution.

Currently, Karnataka's share in devolution stands around 3.647% as recommended by the 15th Finance Commission.

Finance Commission chairman on denial of interim relief

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission Arvind Panagariya seemed to be unaware of Karnataka's accusation that the Centre did not honour the interim relief of ₹5,495 crore recommended by the 15th Finance Commission for 2020-2021.

When his attention was drawn to the issue, he said: "I do not think the Centre has denied this. It has not been released yet." However, member Ajay Narayan Jha intervened and said that the Centre did not take a positive view of the recommendation in the first report. "The second report or main report was on State and sector- specific grants for five years. The Centre said it will try and incorporate as part of the Centrally-sponsored scheme," Mr. Jha said.

When his views were sought on the Centre not adhering to the commission's recommendations, Mr. Panagariya said: "The Central government has always honoured the recommendation on devolution, local bodies, and disaster relief. In State-specific and sector-specific recommendations, the record is more mixed."

Give records on approval for probe against CM, HC to Governor's office

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Thursday asked the office of the Governor to submit records related to sanction granted for conducting investigation against Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) scam.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna issued the direction while adjourning till August 31 hearing on the petition filed by Mr. Siddaramaiah, who had questioned the legality of the sanction.

Earlier, the advocate appearing for the Governor informed the Court that office of the Governor would submit the records on grant of sanction. Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot granted sanction on August 17 on the applications filed by Bengaluru-based social activists Pradeep Kumar S.P. and T.J. Abraham and Mysuru-based Snehamayi Krishna.

No application of mind

Appearing for Mr. Siddaramaiah, advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi contended that the sanction was granted without application of mind as the Governor has not referred to the merits of the complaints on allegations made against Mr. Siddaramaiah.

The only application of mind by the Governor exhibited in the sanction order was on the issue of coming to the conclusion, citing a judgment of the apex court, that the Governor need not abide by the advice given by the State Cabinet to reject the complaint against the Chief Minister, argued Mr. Singhvi.

Mr. Singhvi also claimed that according sanction for investigation under Section 17A of the Prevention of Corruption Act to private individuals is contrary to the provisions as it contemplates sanction to be accorded only to the investigating officer and not to any individual.

State Waqf board opposes Centre's Waqf Amendment Bill

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Waqf Board has expressed its strong opposition to the proposed Central Waqf Amendment Bill.

During a meeting of the Waqf board's administrative committee, led by Minister Zameer Ahmad Khan and State Waqf board chairman Anwar Basha, a resolution was passed opposing the amendment.

Mr. Khan and CM's political secretary Nasir Ahmad submitted a copy of the resolution to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. The committee said it would not provide information to the Joint Advisory Committee formed by the Centre. They asserted that the Waqf board is an autonomous body, and the proposed amendment is against the interests of the community. The meeting recommended that the government pass a resolution condemning the Bill in the upcoming session of the State legislature.

Housing Minister Zameer Ahmad Khan submitting a memorandum to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in Bengaluru on Thursday.

ITI Ltd. bags first EVM order from SEC of West Bengal

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

ITI Limited, the country's first PSU post-independence and a premier telecom manufacturing company has bagged its first Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) order from the State Election Commission (SEC) of West Bengal for the supply of 500 sets of machines.

The indigenous multi-post EVM was designed and developed by ITI Ltd. as per specifications finalised by the Technical Evaluation Committee of SEC, and was approved by the standing committee of State Election Commissioners, said ITI in a statement on Thursday.

According to the PSU, this multi-post EVMs can be used for conducting the local body elections at gram panchayats, municipalities, corporations, or at any institutions where democratic elections are needed. This EVM can also be used as a single-post machine for meeting the requirements of Lok Sabha/Assembly polls.

Rajesh Rai, chairman and MD, ITI Ltd., said: "We would like to use this opportunity to re-establish ITI Ltd. as a technology manufacturer and join the list of EVM manufacturers in India."

Food Safety Dept. to conduct two-day campaign to check violation in eateries across State from today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Food Safety and Quality Department in Karnataka will take up a two-day special campaign to check food safety violations in hotels and restaurants across the State from August 30.

During the campaign, officials will also collect samples of fish, meat, and poultry to analyse if they are safe for human consumption.

Giving these details on Wednesday, State Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao told presspersons that officials from the Food Safety department will inspect all eateries in districts and taluk headquarters to check for violations and initiate action.

He said the department is planning to place 3,400 food testing kits in public places for people to get their food tested if they have any doubts about adulteration. "Over 1,000 kits will be placed shortly and will be ready for use by the public. We want to create awareness about food safety among people and encourage them to get their food tested for adulteration if they have any doubts," Mr. Gundu Rao said.

From April this year till date, 8,418 food samples were collected and of these 2,593 samples were tested till June end. In July alone, 2,753 food samples were collected of which 711 samples were tested, he said.

Mr. Gundu Rao said 3,467 hotels were inspected since April and notices had been issued to 986 for not maintaining hygienic conditions. A total penalty of ₹4.93 lakh had been slapped on 142 hotels, he said.

"So far, 106 cases have been settled in courts across the State. While a day's imprisonment has been ordered in 34 cases, imprisonment of five, 10, 30, 45, and 60 days has been ordered in five cases. Likewise, 90 days of imprisonment has been ordered in four cases and six months' imprisonment in two cases. Apart from this, in 18 cases the court has slapped penalties," the Minister said.

Of the targeted 1,06,895 food businesses in the State, only 68% have obtained licences so far.

Fruits and vegetables

Mr. Gundu Rao said fungus growth and high levels of pesticides had been found in 27 of the 266 samples of fruits and vegetables that were tested. A total of 385 samples were collected and 266 of these were tested to check if they were safe for consumption. Besides, 211 paneer samples, 246 cake samples, and 67 khova samples have also been tested. The reports are awaited, he said.

The Food Safety Department is planning to place 3,400 food testing kits in public places for people to get their food tested if they have doubts about adulteration. FILE PHOTO

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001.
Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in (Contact No. 96461-01116)

Tender Enquiry No. 05/G.C./T.S./PSPCL/2024-25 | Dated: 30.08.2024

Dy.CE/Grid Construction, opp. PAU Gate no.1, PSPCL, Ludhiana invites Open e-Tender for outsourcing of Augmentation of Power Transformers related works on partial turnkey mode under RDSS scheme under Grid Construction Division Bathinda under Grid Construction Circle, Ludhiana.
For detailed NIT & Tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 30.08.2024 (01:00 PM onwards).
Note: Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in
C-633/24 | 76155/12/3371/2023/37129

By E_Mail/e-Despatch: E_Mail ID: serw_balasore@yahoo.in; Ph-No-06782/260318, Balia,Balasore
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BALASORE
"e" - Procurement Notice for Road Work
Identification No.- Online Tender- Bridge N.C.B. No.09 for 2024-25
Letter No: - 2910 | Date. 27/08/24

1. Name of the Work : Balance Road Works under PMGSY-III (2022-23)
2. Total No. of Work : 02 No.
3. Estimated Cost : Rs.298.42 to 593.48 lakhs (Approximately)
4. Eligible Class of Contractor : "B" & "A" Class (of Odisha P.W.D.) or relevant Class of other licensing authorities (as per annexure).
5. Period of Completion : As per Annexure
6. Other Details :-

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O C.C.E., R.W.Circle, Balasore Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Balasore.	N.C.B. No.- 09 of 2024-25	Dt.04.09.2024 at 11.00 A.M.	Dt.18.09.2024 Up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt.17.09.2024 Up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt.19.09.2024 at 11.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

- Further details can be seen from the website : www.pmgsytenders.gov.in

Chief Engineer, R.W.Circle, Balasore.
O-231: | OIPR-25105/11/0012/2425

Bringing marginalised histories to the forefront through personal archives

The third edition of Constructing Personal Archives, a six-month-long incubation programme for developing and pursuing archiving projects of all scales, kickstarts on September 14

Preeti Zachariah
BENGALURU

Participants of CPA 2022 are seen engaging with audiences in varied forms at the public showcase in Goethe-Institute/ Max Mueller Bhavan Bengaluru. ADIL HAMZA & BIJOY JOSEPH

One of the many CPA Projects by Niyati Hirani was presented as a part of the exhibition curated for the Festival of Libraries, hosted by the Ministry of Culture in New Delhi in Aug 2023. TRISHLA DOSHI

"We wanted to visibilize invisible histories," says Ishita Shah, the co-curator of Constructing Personal Archives (CPA), a six-month-long incubation programme for developing and pursuing archiving projects of all scales, including personal records, family archives and community narratives. According to her, CPA, which will kick start its third edition on September 14, explores the need for personal histories to become a part of archives, institutions and the popular narrative.

History, she points out, has been written mainly from a patriarchal, elitist, western perspective, so it marginalises many voices. "We are talking about bringing these marginal histories to the forefront," says the Bengaluru-based Shah, also the founder of Curating for Culture, the collective behind CPA.

Pandemic Baby

CPA is a pandemic baby, one of the many novel ideas that emerged during COVID-19. As an archivist, researcher, and curator, Shah says she began wondering how her cultural practice could help in times of crisis. So, she began offering small online workshops on documenting personal and family histories, testing the waters to see if people were interested in something like this.

"We did three short workshops on family archiving because we saw so much interest," she says, recounting how, as part of these workshops, she would take participants through her own journey as an archivist, the basics of archiving, alternative methods of collecting history, how to assemble a proposal, and so on. In their feedback, many participants felt that they wanted more time and space to incubate their work. "Slowness and immersion have been very important to this practice," says Shah, who decided that a more prolonged engagement was necessary and launched the first edition of CPA in partnership with Vallabhi Jalan around June 2020.

To ensure inclusiveness, the eligibility criteria for applying to CPA have been kept as minimal as possible; the only prerequisite is that there should be enough material to build an archive. "Only if your project has the material can we guide you," says Shah, who has helped incubate around 36 archival projects across South Asia over two editions of CPA.

CPA 2024 is being co-curated with Past Perfect: Heritage Management Company (Mumbai), The Northeast India AV Archive (Shillong) and The Citizen Archive of Pakistan (Karachi), along with many other co-facilitators and presenters from South Asia and beyond.

It will be divided into three components: weekend workshops co-facilitated by professionals from the field, internal mentoring sessions, and public dialogues on larger themes emerging from the participants' archiving projects. "Based on the project requirements, the programme's pedagogy is curated in response to the selected participant projects," says Shah.

Visitors engaging with personal histories of migration from different neighbourhoods of Bengaluru at The Cloakroom Archive (2022).

Looking into family history

Radhika Hegde, curator at the S.L. Bhatia History of Medicine Museum, St. John's Medical College, who participated in the first edition of CPA, says that her introduction to personal archiving started with her simply attending a workshop on family history. "I saw this post on Facebook and was intrigued," she says. "We were all sitting at home because of COVID-19, and – just out of curiosity – I wanted to see what this was all about."

Fascinated by what she had learnt, she thought it was time to look into her own family history and went on to register for the larger incubation programme. This decision, she says, has had a very positive effect on her practice at the museum as well. "I was always someone who used the archives for research but was never the person who curated them," says Hegde, who began cataloguing the resources available at St. John's after completing the programme.

Ishita Shah.

Hegde is also actively working on bringing oral histories and micro-histories into the larger dialogue around the history of medicine, something she believes is essential in a post-colonial world. "I have successfully brought that entire training to my institution," she states.

Refining history

Shah grew up in Ahmedabad, a city studded with both marvellous historical buildings and iconic modern ones designed by people such as Louis Kahn, Le Corbusier, and B.V. Doshi. She remembers being fascinated by Ahmedabad's built environment even as a child and this early exposure informed her aesthetic sense "passively but definitely."

She went on to study interior design at CEPT University in Ahmedabad before pursuing a master's in architectural history and theory at The Bartlett School of Architecture, University College London (UCL). Her stint there, she believes, further opened up her worldview. "We were looking at the city as a much larger organism... the social life, cultural development and politics of it," she says. "All that reading and researching (taught me) how to look at subjects from a transdisciplinary point of view."

When she returned to India in 2013, she joined her alma mater, CEPT University, where she went on to set up India's first architectural archive, CEPT Archives. Around this time, she started introducing personal histories into her practice, primarily through conducting oral history recordings. "Essentially, one doesn't just study the building itself but the people who created it– their life, ethnicity and social situations," explains Shah. "What one is trying to do over here is try to move the way architectural and design histories are read, studied and documented; not just subvert the narrative but also, in the process, redefine it," she says.

In 2016, she moved to Bengaluru, joining the Srishti Institute of Art, Design and Technology, where she worked as an educator and the coordinator to the UNESCO Chair in Culture, Habitat and Sustainable Development. "The focus was to work with heritage towns," says Shah, who helped build community archiving projects in Hampi and Kalaburagi (formerly Gulbarga) in her stint here. "In a landscape like Karnataka, which is so diverse and understudied, the process of visibilizing invisible histories and taking it into heritage practice became very real," she says. "This approach to documentation and collecting histories will help how we see heritage preservation and conservation practices."

In 2019, she chose to go independent, collaborating on projects with Biome Environmental Solutions Pvt. Ltd., the National Centre for Biological Sciences, and INTACH Bengaluru. She was also co-curating Design-ed Dialogues with Rahul Bisht, a monthly public engagement platform at the Courtyard, Shanti Nagar. "I was able to bring cultural and creative practitioners from the city together to talk about very important critical processes in cultural projects," says Shah, who then set up Curating for Culture (C4C) in 2020.

She thinks of C4C as a "fluid collective" comprising a diverse range of practitioners who are designers, video editors, filmmakers, public space designers and researchers who come together for the sole intent of making cultural preservation more accessible and inclusive. This collective, which is not restricted by geographical boundaries, essentially focuses on independent research, capacity building (education and mentoring) and consultation.

Highlighting unseen stories

At its core, C4C highlights people's unseen stories and histories, which tend to be neglected, ignored in mainstream narratives. "There is a political intent for me in this practice," she says, pointing out that it is being built when many histories aren't just being eclipsed or excluded but outright erased and rewritten. "These micro-histories, as we call them, will have political power against the authority, against the system, against the institution," she believes. "I'm not saying the institution needs to fall; it needs to be challenged to have a healthy living environment."

She also believes that these alternative methods powerfully move people. "History is often written in very sterile ways," says Shah, who believes that the personal context offers emotion, brings in the ephemeral, and delves into the livingness of history. More importantly, it inculcates a sort of cultural responsibility, making people more aware of and sensitive to lives unlike their own. "It could alter how we understand and tolerate each other."

Interested participants may write to CPA by September 7, 2024, at info@curatingforculture.com

Bengaluru organisation guides students on the path from dreaming to doing

Purpose Academy works with students to identify their passion and design their higher studies and careers around the same

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU

Voice the Void is a project conceived by Spurti Aluru, a student at TISB Bangalore, with the idea of empowering visually impaired individuals by building prototypes of audiobooks for blind students.

Aaliyah Merchant, a student at Headstart Educational Academy, came up with the idea of 'Gray Matter', an initiative to address the lack of knowledge on stroke prevention among individuals in India.

Eesha Kadwadkar, a student at Oberoi International School, Mumbai, came up with the idea of RescYou, a chatbot platform that helps children access information and assistance from mental health professionals.

The youngsters came up with these impressive projects with the help of Purpose Academy, a Bengaluru-based organisation that aims to shape students into the problem solvers of tomorrow.

Eesha Kadwadkar

Aliyah Merchant

Manav Subodh

Spurti Aluru

The confused youth

Founded by Manav Subodh, a former global ambassador at UC Berkeley and curator of the Activate Impact Youth Summit at the UN, Purpose Academy works with students to identify their passion and design their higher studies and careers around the same.

"I have been working with youngsters in the entrepreneurship and skilling space for a while now," says Subodh.

"When I meet students, I see they are confused. There are rising suicide cases and mental wellness issues among them. Earlier if the parents wanted their kids to get into IITs or become doctors, today they want them to go abroad."

According to Subodh, it was this situation that prompted him to start Purpose Academy.

"It offers a unique programme which helps young people find out what they are truly passionate about, to plan their academics around it and to make it into a career. That will lead to a happier generation"

The programme that spans for six months starts with identifying the calling of each student, says Subodh who adds that a specially designed curriculum helps to achieve this.

"But identifying the passion is only half battle won. We then help them distinguish whether it's a hobby, academic interest or career interest. In the next stage, we also put the money lens to it."

"Then we help them design a project that would help them test themselves as well as create a real impact in the world. They have to look out for partners for these projects and we help them connect with mentors."

The partners of Purpose Academy include UC Berkeley among others. According to Subodh, the team utilises the Berkeley method of entrepreneurship to transform the entrepreneurial ideas of students into reality.

"Apart from Berkeley we also take students to Nvidia, eBay etc where they get industry experience."

The parent factor

But what if the parents don't approve of the identified passion of their kid? Subodh admits that such instances are not rare. "It has happened many times. In such situations, the student either drops out of the programme or we convince the parents. We have been able to do that many times since we are capable of articulating it. We are not saying your child should become a philanthropist. We are saying let's see where passion, purpose and money can meet."

The programme which has so far mentored more than 100 students, is now entering its fifth batch. The team plans to scale it up further.

"I see that more and more students are today interested in interdisciplinary studies which is why many of them want to go abroad. We need more universities that offer liberal arts or existing universities to add liberal arts to retain them. Someday, we would love to set up an academy or institution where we can take forward that philosophy in a campus format. That's where we are headed."

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 30, 1974

Bill likely on Control Over Medical Colleges

Bangalore, August. 29. The Health Minister, Mr. H. Siddaveerappa told the Karnataka Assembly said that the govt. would examine the type of legislation necessary to have greater control over the private medical colleges in the State. Answering questions from Mr. K.M. Rudrappa (Cong), the Minister said that at present the control exercised by the govt. was only in regard to the affiliation given to the colleges. There might be a necessity for greater control on the private colleges in the future.

Land Reforms Bill Passed

Bangalore, Aug. 29: The Karnataka Land Reforms (Second Amendment) Bill 1974, which sought to safeguard tenants from dispossession in consequence of injunctions obtained by landlords was passed by the Karnataka Assembly to-day.

Mr. N. Hutchmasthi Gowda, Revenue Minister, explained the objectives of the Bill which replaced an Ordinance. Referring to the suggestions made by some members for amending the original Act, he said the Government would bring forward appropriate amendments as and when found necessary.

During the debate the members welcome the Bills. Messrs. S. Bangarappa (Ind), Veerappa Moily (Cong), T.R. Shamanna (Ind), P.M. Bangi (Cong). S.Y. Patil (Cong-O), M.M. Sajjan (Cong), C. Byre Gowda (CPM) P.C. Shettar (Cong), B.B. Sayanak (MES), B. Puttaswamiah (Cong-O) H.D. Deve Gowda (Cong-O) and Kagodu Thimmappa (Soc) took part in the debate.

Karnataka InFocus

THE HINDU

IN SHORT

The Maharaja's Zoo set up in 1892

Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens was established in 1892 in Mysuru by Maharaja of Mysore Sri Chamarajendra Wadiyar. The zoo was later named after the king in 1909. G.H. Krumbeigal, a German landscaper and a horticulturist, was engaged to design the zoo. In the beginning, the zoo was established on 10.9 acres of land and was subsequently expanded to 45 acres.

How the Mysuru zoo grew over time

To expand the zoo, an additional 50 acres of Kensington Gardens, along with Thandi Sadak, was acquired, making the zoo campus area to 157.02 acres, including 77.02 acres of Karanji Lake. The Maharaja used to bring animals such as chimpanzee, giraffes to the zoo during his tour of Europe and Africa, according to the zoo records.

A model for Indian zoos

The Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi which conducted the Management Effectiveness Evaluation of Zoos in India two years ago, rated the Mysuru zoo as "very good". The country's medium and large zoos were comprehensively evaluated during its first-ever exercise by the CZA. Mysuru zoo was judged 'very good' among large zoos.

Captive breeding, best practices

The Mysuru zoo is well-known for captive breeding of wild animals, including endangered species, and animal management practices. The kind of precautions it takes on animal care is unique.
This was displayed when it recently shifted 40 spotted deer in its collection to Dandeli's Kali tiger reserve.

Conservation education

Mysuru zoo's model of spreading conservation education has been replicated by other zoos.
The zoo was included under the Green Good Deeds campaign of the Union Ministry of Environment where the best practices, sustainable and eco-friendly measures are made into documentaries and screened.

An all-new experience at Mysuru zoo

Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens, popularly known as Mysuru zoo, has seen a transformation with conservative animal enclosures replaced by state-of-the art ones

Shankar Bennur
MYSURU

The famed Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens, popularly known as Mysuru Zoo, has seen a transformation with conservative animal enclosures replaced by modern ones, making the century-old zoo a "model" for other Indian zoos.

Though the new enclosures have come up complying with the guidelines of the Central Zoo Authority (CZA), the shift to contemporary enclosures was primarily aimed at providing an all-new experience to visitors whose footfalls have swelled over the years and made the zoo here one of South India's top tourist destinations.

Significantly, some of the animal enclosures have been built from the funding under corporate social responsibility (CSR). The zoo has continued its efforts to construct new enclosures for other large animals as it is also in touch with many corporate bodies and industries for getting CSR funds as modern enclosures play a major role in animal exchange agreements with foreign zoos as they cautiously verify infrastructure before exchanging their animals.

For the gorilla family

The Gorilla Family Housing Facility which was constructed with financial assistance under a CSR initiative of the Infosys Foundation, Bengaluru, was inaugurated early this year. It is a massive 37,000 square feet enclosure for housing gorillas. Constructed at a cost of ₹5 crore, the entire funding was done by the Infosys Foundation.

Mysuru zoo is the only zoological garden in the country that has gorillas in its collection. Zoo authorities say those who can't afford to visit other developed countries or gorilla range countries can visit the Mysuru zoo to watch the gorillas, an endangered Greater Ape. The efforts will also help in creating awareness about its conservation, they add. The zoo has three gorillas, including Quembo, a male Western Lowland Gorilla procured from Frankfurt Zoo in Germany. The 14-year-old Thabo and 8-year-old Demba were also brought from Germany.

Gorilla Foundation, a non-profit organisation coordinating gorilla programmes and exchanges with zoos across the globe, helped the zoo in acquiring a pair of gorillas. Polo was gifted to Mysuru zoo by the Dublin Zoo in 1995. It died in 2014, now replaced by Quembo. A few years ago, the zoo got two pairs of orangutans from Singapore and Malaysia after it managed to strike a major international animal exchange deal. The 17-year-old male Merlin and 13-year-old female Atina were brought from Singapore zoo while five-year-old male Afa and the 7-year-old female Minnie were brought from Malaysia zoo in 2021.

Youth Club at the Mysuru Zoo engages schoolchildren in conservation education. M.A. SRIRAM

The visitors are greeted by giraffes at the entrance of Mysuru zoo. The zoo has been successfully captive breeding giraffes.

Ring-tailed lemurs at their new enclosure in Mysuru zoo. M.A. SRIRAM

The Gorilla housing facility at the Mysuru zoo has been developed at a cost of ₹5 crore. M.A. SRIRAM

The great apes were in need of spacious and contemporary housing. The new enclosure for the great apes was built at a cost of ₹99.20 lakh with financial assistance from the Bank Note Paper Mill India (BNPMI), Mysuru.

BNPMI had earlier donated ₹70 lakh to the zoo for the construction of an orangutan house under its CSR initiative. The two pairs of orangutans brought from Singapore and Malaysia were displayed in the enclosure built earlier. Two separate enclosures were built for orangutans to ensure the new bloodline of the species and taking up captive breeding of the endangered species. Zoo records say the last time the zoo displayed orangutans was in the 70's. They are among the star attractions for the zoo visitors.

Tiger viewing deck

The new tiger viewing deck was inaugurated recently to provide better visibility of the big cats at the enclosure. A high glass panel has been installed after raising the viewing deck in front of the tiger enclosure so that visitors can stand and watch the animals. Unlike the past, visibility has been enhanced with the new initiative. The deck was built from the zoo's own resources.

Ringed-tailed lemurs also got a new enclosure under the CSR aid from the Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL), Mysuru. It was built at a cost of ₹75 lakh. The previous enclosure for lemurs was small and could not accommodate the lemurs from the Czech Republic. The zoo has seven lemurs, including the five that were acquired from the foreign zoo under an animal exchange programme. The lemurs are a new attraction for visitors at the zoo and all seven are displayed in rotations. Two male and three female ring-tailed lemurs had been acquired under the animal exchange programme with the Czech Zoo. The lemurs that the zoo had were getting aged and not breeding. Keeping the captive breeding in focus and also to add a new bloodline, the young lemurs were sought and the Czech zoo agreed to give. Ring-tailed lemur, a rare species, is found in Madagascar.

"We are planning to build more modern enclosures for animals, including rhinoceros. The zoo is in talks with the corporate bodies for CSR aid. If required, the zoo is also ready to take up the works from its own resources like it did for the tiger viewing deck. Besides complying with the CZA guidelines, the new enclosures have enriched visibility of animals and given visitors a different experience," says Zoo Executive Director Mahesh Kumar.

Adopt an animal or bird for a day, month or year

The species have been categorized in diamond class, gold class, silver class, and bronze class. The adoption is possible for a sum of ₹1,000 to ₹3,00,000 per annum

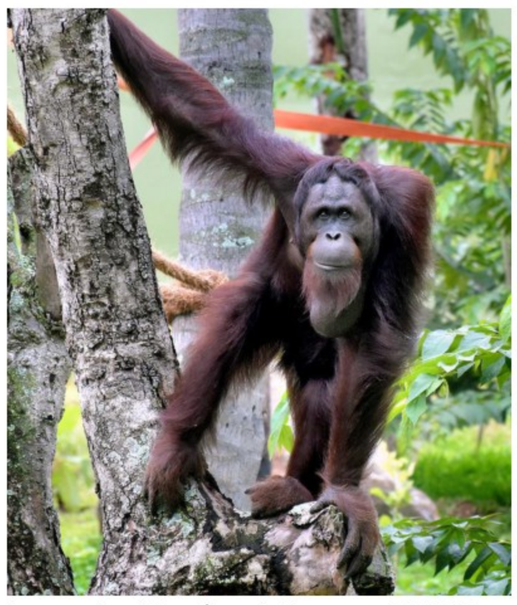
Shankar Bennur
MYSURU

The adoption of animals at the century-old Mysuru zoo has been made easy, with flexible options. Animal lovers and wildlife enthusiasts can now adopt animals and birds of their choice even for a day. The animal adoption scheme, which was first launched at the Mysuru Zoo more than two decades ago, became a hugely popular scheme, encouraging other zoos in the State to replicate the scheme, thanks to its success in Mysuru.

Besides fulfilling the interests and wishes of the visitors, who were adopting animals and birds for special occasions like birthdays, the scheme also brought revenue to one of the oldest zoos in the country.

Certificate of appreciation

Until recently, under the scheme, adoption was possible for a period of one year, after paying the requisite adoption fees. Now, changes have been brought to the scheme where the animals and the birds can be adopted for a day, a month, and also for a period of six months. Also, the zoo provides a certificate of appreciation to those going for adoption. Interested people can adopt the animals by visiting www.mysuruzoo.info or visiting the zoo to take up the adoptions.



An orangutan at its enclosure in Mysuru zoo. M A SRIRAM

The zoo has 145 species of animals and birds in 1,450 numbers. The annual maintenance of the zoos comes up to ₹60 crore. The animal adoption fee in zoos across the State was hiked a few years ago because of the increasing maintenance costs. For adoptions, the animals and birds have been classified species-wise into 13 groups. The scheme came as a saviour post-COVID-19 when the zoo was in a serious financial crisis with footfalls falling drastically.

The species have been categorized in diamond class, gold class, silver class, and bronze class. The adoption is possible for a sum of ₹1,000 to ₹3,00,000 per annum. The cost worked out under the revised scheme (day, month and six months) can be accessed from the zoo office.

In the diamond class, elephants, gorilla, lion, tiger, giraffe, orangutan, chimpanzee, Indian rhinoceros, hippopotamus, zebra, and African hunting cheetah have been included. The highest adoption fee under the class is for Asiatic and African elephants besides gorilla, whose adoption costs ₹3 lakh per annum. In the gold class, black panther, Indian leopard, sloth bear, Asiatic black bear, gaur, jaguar, cape buffalo are included and their adoption costs ₹50,000 per annum. In the same class, the adoption is possible from ₹20,000 to ₹30,000 per annum. In the silver class, the adoption fee ranges from ₹10,000 to ₹15,000 and the animal and birds included under this class are swamp deer, scarlet macaw, slender loris, hog deer, black swan, Sarus crane, saltwater crocodile, Nile crocodile, leopard cat, great Indian hornbill and others. The adoption fee ranges from ₹1,000 to ₹5,000 in bronze class which mostly comprises different species of birds, including gray jungle fowl, peacock, silver pheasant, snakes like python, parrots and others.

CPI(M) demands resignation of two Congress legislators

Vincent, Eldhos are accused of sexual abuse; LDF convener Jayarajan asks Congress MLAs to set example by resigning; complaints against Mukesh seems recurrent in nature, says Satheesan

G. Anand
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The ruling Left Democratic Front (LDF) attempted to turn the tables on the Opposition's increasingly strident demand for the resignation of actor and Communist Party of India (Marxist) [CPI(M)] legislator M. Mukesh by mooting the resignation of two Congress legislators facing arguably comparable charges of sexual abuse.

LDF convener E.P. Jayarajan said on Thursday that Mr. Mukesh's continuation in the Assembly would become untenable if the two accused MLAs M. Vincent and Eldhos Kunnapillil of the Congress set an example by relinquishing their elected position.

Silent protest: KPCC Palakkad district committee members demand a probe into the findings of the Hema panel. K.K. MUSTAFAH

Given its dismal showing in the Lok Sabha election, the ruling front also appeared reluctant to risk a byelection in the Kollam Assembly segment represented by Mr. Mukesh.

Moreover, the CPI(M) was acutely disinclined to yield the Congress another political trophy soon after director Ranjith, a self-professed left fellow-traveller, resigned as chairperson of the Kerala State Chalachitra Academy.

Meanwhile, the Communist Party of India (CPI) State executive, which met here on Thursday, attempted to balance moral and ideological considerations regarding the politically touchy question of whether Mr. Mukesh should relinquish office and the pressures of realpolitik.

On Thursday, the Congress held a Statewide protest at the district headquarters and marched to Mr. Mukesh's residences in Thiruvananthapuram and Kollam. It was also wary of conceding political space to the BJP agitating for the same causes. Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan said there was no equivalency between the charges against Mr. Mukesh, which seemed recurrent in nature, and the individual cases registered against the Congress MLAs.

Bypoll: BJP Karnataka unit's agenda is to get ticket for party candidates, says Ashok

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly R. Ashok on Thursday said the main agenda of the BJP State unit is to make efforts to get ticket for the BJP candidates for all three Assembly seats, including Channapatna, for which bypolls will be held.

Mr. Ashok, who is in Delhi to meet the party Central leaders along with other prominent leaders from the State to hold consultations on various issues including the Assembly bypolls, told media persons that the State unit would try to convince the party leadership in this regard.

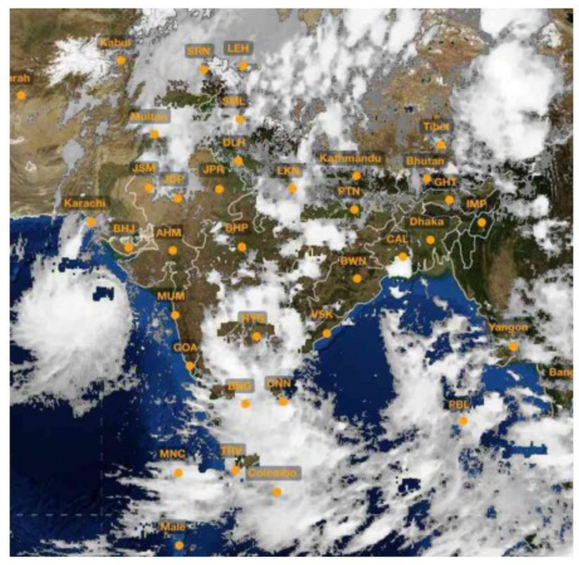
When he was asked if their coalition partner JD (S) would agree to give up Channapatna, which it represented earlier to the BJP, Mr. Ashok only said that the final call on the issue would be taken by the NDA of which Mr. Kumaraswamy would also be an integral part.

Mr. Ashok's statement on ticket to BJP candidates gave rise to political curiosity as various campaigns are being taken up by the JD(S) under the leadership of its youth wing president Nikhil Kumaraswamy. This is being speculated as an effort to prepare the party for bypolls in Channapatna.

At the same time, BJP MLC C.P. Yogeshwar has expressed his desire to contest the bypolls, putting the NDA leaders in a spot. They are concerned as any misunderstanding between the allies may turn out to be a challenge as Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has been spearheading the Congress campaign in Channapatna.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Saurashtra & Kutch, Uttarakhand, Nagaland, Manipur, Odisha, Telangana, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Thunderstorm with lighting likely at isolated places over Vidarbha, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	34.8	25.6	Kozhikode	36	30.1	25.3
Ahmedabad	5.1	29.1	25.4	Kurnool	—	32.9	24.2
Aizawl	2	33.5	22.4	Lucknow	11	35.1	25.2
Allahabad	—	37.0	27.2	Madurai	—	38.2	25.7
Bengaluru	26.8	26.0	21.2	Mangaluru	7	28.4	23.0
Bhopal	—	32.0	23.8	Mumbai	6.1	31.5	26.3
Bhubaneswar	14.8	30.9	25.4	Mysuru	6.8	28.9	20.0
Chandigarh	33.6	31.8	24.3	New Delhi	77.1	28.8	23.0
Chennai	—	34.1	27.2	Patna	9	35.9	27.6
Coimbatore	—	32.4	23.3	Port Blair	51	30.0	23.7
Dehradun	71	32.1	21.4	Puducherry	—	32.6	26.7
Gangtok	3	23.0	18.6	Pune	0.5	30.4	24.0
Goa	14.6	31.5	26.5	Raipur	1.6	29.0	26.1
Guwahati	0.6	36.0	26.6	Ranchi	9	31.0	23.1
Hubballi	—	29.0	22.0	Shillong	—	25.4	17.7
Hyderabad	—	31.2	23.5	Shimla	4	21.8	16.6
Imphal	10	31.9	22.1	Srinagar	6	21.5	17.7
Jaipur	—	31.0	25.6	Thiruvananthapuram	4	32.1	25.9
Kochi	—	30.2	27.6	Tiruchi	—	35.3	26.6
Kohima	5	26.5	17.7	Vijayawada	—	33.5	28.0
Kolkata	—	34.2	26.6	Visakhapatnam	58	27.1	23.9

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.17	.29	.66	27	29	
Bengaluru	.12	.25	.58	16	101	
Chennai	5	.40	.69	24	53	
Delhi	.12	.19	112	34	44	
Hyderabad	.34	.49	.34	25	64	
Kolkata	.12	.22	.21	25	52	
Lucknow	9	.10	.42	50	35	
Mumbai	.29	.27	.23	28	58	
Pune	—	.27	.32	48	54	
Visakhapatnam	.11	.53	.32	45	70	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Jalna, Maharashtra recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 229 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Palkalaiperur, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 17

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

KIADB allotted land to Nirani, Narayanaswamy, Chanakya varsity, and Rashtrotthana too, says Karnataka Industries Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As the Opposition BJP has sharpened the attack on AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge's family over alleged allotment of five acres by the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB) on the outskirts of Bengaluru, Industries Minister M.B. Patil on Thursday claimed that former Industries Minister and BJP leader Murugesh Nirani, Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council Chalavadi T. Narayanaswamy and Rashtrotthana Parishat too got land allotted by the KIADB.

No software firm

Addressing reporters here, Mr. Patil said KIADB had allotted two acres of land to Mr. Narayanaswamy at Hebbal, II Phase, in Mandya district, for starting Brindavan Software.

Later, the BJP leader said he had opened a garment factory. However, instead of the garment factory, he built a warehouse and it was given on rent, Mr. Patil said.

On August 27, Mr. Narayanaswamy petitioned Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot asking IT&BT Minister Priyank Kharge be asked to step down from the State Cabinet over allotment of land to a trust run by Mr. Mallikarjun's family and headed by his son Rahul, in March 2024, at the hi-tech Defence and Aerospace Park near Devanahalli under the Scheduled Caste quota.

Mr. Patil pointed out that similarly, Mr. Nirani, during his tenure as Minister during the BJP regime, had been allotted vast tracts of land from KIADB. In the name of his son, Mr. Nirani had secured 25 acres in Agro-tech Park to set up Tejas International School at Navanagara in Bagalkot district. The BJP leader also got allotted 200 acres at Honnenahalli of Bookanakere in K.R. Pet taluk in Mandya district, for starting a sugar factory. He pointed out that KIADB comes under the Industries Department, which he had headed.

The previous BJP government had allotted 116 acres for Chanakya University near Devanahalli and the land value was fixed at ₹50 crore against the real value of ₹187 crore, Mr. Patil. The Rashtrotthana Parishat had secured five acres at the Defence and Aerospace Park, on the outskirts of Bengaluru. The parishat has constructed a commercial building there, Mr. Patil said.

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in (Phone No. 01881-275289)
E-mail: se-hq-ggsstp-ropar@pspcl.in

E-Tender Enquiry No. 7594/P-2/EMP-12779 Dated: 14.08.2024
Dy. Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Purchase Cell-2) GGSSTP, Rupnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2024_POWER_125553_1 for Replacement/Upgradation of 15 No. 48V/24V Float cum Boost Chargers of M/s AFCO make along with SCR Controller Cards, fuse fail detector circuit and Annunciation system along with testing and commissioning of stage-2 & 3 at GGSSTP, Rupnagar.
For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 14.08.2024 onwards.
Note: - Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in
RTP - 102/24 **76155/12/3366/2023/37124**

Karnataka Road Development Corporation Limited
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
"Samparka Soudha", Survey No.8, (B.E.P Premises), Dr. Rajkumar Road, Rajaji Nagar 1st block, Bengaluru-560010.Telefax: 080-22024000
Email : cekrdcl@gmail.com Website : www.krdcl.in
No. KRDCL/IFB/2024-25/06 Dated: 29.08.2024
INVITATION FOR BIDS (through KPP Portal)
Karnataka Road Development Corporation Limited [KRDCL] invites bids through KPP portal for Empanelment of Consultants for providing Consultancy Services for preparation of Detailed Feasibility Report for construction of New Bridge works to be taken up by KRDCL in Karnataka. Interested applicants may access bidding documents from the KPP portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 01-09-2024 onwards. The last date for submission of tenders is on 12-09-2024** and further, any addendums/clarifications/calendar of events regarding the bid documents will be published / uploaded only on KPP portal and KRDCL website: **http://www.krdcl.in**
Sd/-
CHIEF ENGINEER
DIPR/CP/YC/1719/2024-25 KRDCL, BANGALORE

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(BELLARY THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through Kppp Portal only) (Two Cover System)
KPCL invites bids through GOK kppp platform **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for the supply of following material required for BTPS. **(1) KPCL/ 2024-25/IND1190.** Date: **22.08.2024. Supply of Fasteners. (2) KPCL/2024-25/IND1186.** Date: **22.08.2024. Supply of Rubber Bellows for ID fan and MDBFP Motor, (3) KPCL/2024-25/IND1185.** Date: **22.08.2024. Supply of Rubber Beading for CWP Motor. (4) KPCL/2024-25/IND1184.** Date: **22.08.2024. Supply of Gaskets Rubber Cord & Gland Rope of Various sizes. (5) KPCL/2024-25/IND1187.** Date: **22.08.2024. Supply of Fasteners. (6) KPCL/2024-25/IND1077. Supply of Cables. Last date for receipt of tenders: for Sl. No. 1 to 5, 05.09.2024 for Sl. No. 6, 31.08.2024.**
Further details can be had from the Office of the Executive Engineer, (Purchase), **Mobile: 09480830342, Kudathini, Bellary Dist., Karnataka, E-mail: eepurchasebtps@gmail.com.**

CITY MUNCIPAL COUNCIL CHANNAPATNA
Ramanagar District, Phone : 080-2725 1235.
E-mail : itstaff_ulb_channapatna@yahoo.co.in
Website : www.channapatnacity.mrc.gov.in
No. : CMC/CPT/ENG/Tender/CR/09/2024-25 Date : 23-08-2024
TENDER NOTIFICATION
City Municipal Council, Channapatna invites tenders from PWD registered eligible Contractors enrolled in KPPP in **Two Cover System** in accordance with KW - 1 & 2 Standard Bid Document through **KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
For the indents : 1)18687/CALL-2, 2) 18688/CALL-2, 3) 18689/CALL-2, 4) 18690/CALL-2, 5) 18691/CALL-2, 6) 18693/CALL-2, 7) 18695/CALL-2, 8) 18696/CALL-2, 9) 18698/CALL-2, 10) 27917, 11) 18699, 12) 18700 at Channapatna CMC Limits, Last Date for Submission of tender is on 09-09-2024 up to 5.30 p.m. E.M.D. Details can be referred at K.P.P. Portal. Date of Opening Technical Bid is Scheduled on 11-09-2024 at 10.30 a.m.
For further details interested bidders may contact Technical Section during office hours at **Channapatna CMC Office.** The detailed tender notification can be viewed in **Website : www.channapatnacity.mrc.gov.in.**
Sd/- Municipal Commissioner,
DIPR/Ramanagar/278/Manipal/2024-25 City Municipal Council, Channapatna.

PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE ADDL. SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE AT SRIRANGAPATNA. O.S. No. 20 of 2020
Plaintiffs:
Smt. Mallige Cariappa
Wife of Shri M.A. Cariappa
Aged about 78 years
Residing at Polekad Estate
Puliyeri Grama, Virajpet Taluk,
Ammathi, South Kodagu District
VS
Defendants:
Smt. B.S. Susheela and others
Defendant No.1
Smt. B.S. Susheela
Wife of Shri Giridhar
Aged about 52 years
Residing at Door No.53,
1st Cross, Nehru Nagar,
Bengaluru – 560020
Defendant No.3
Smt. M. Romolla Cariappa
Daughter of Shri. M.A. Cariappa
Aged about 52 years
Residing at Door No.496
"Karuna" Kuvempunagar,
Mysuru
Defendant No.5
Shri. K. Shashidhar
Son of Shri. A.C. Krishna Rao
Aged about 58 years
Residing at Door No.53,
1st Cross, Nehru Nagar
Bengaluru - 560020
Defendant No.7
Shri. Mari Gowda
Son of Shri. G. Narse Gowda
Aged about 75 years
Residing at Gulur Doddi
Gulur Post, Koppa Hobli,
Maddur Taluk
Mandya District
Defendant No.8
Smt. Lakshmi Devi
Wife of Shri. Satish Kumar
Aged about 53 years
Residing at Door No. 53,
1st Cross, Nehru Nagar
Bengaluru - 560020
Defendant No.10
Smt. Sumathi
Daughter of Late Shri. Ramachandra
Aged about 48 years
Residing at Door No.53,
1st Cross, Nehru Nagar
Bengaluru - 560020
Defendant No.12
Shri. K. Mohan
Son of Late Shri. Krishnappa
Aged about 74 years
Residing at No.8, Police Road
Bengaluru - 560002
Defendant No.14
Janab. M. Shafeequh
Son of Late Janab Abdul Khuddus
Aged about 63 years
Residing at Door No. 945/2
Near Jalahalli Cross,
Tumkur Road, T. Dasarahalli
Bengaluru - 560067
Defendant No.15
Smt. S. Prabha
Wife of Shri. N. Raghunatha Rao
Aged about 52 years
Residing at Door No.144, 7th Cross
Devanathachar Street
Bengaluru - 560018
Defendant No.16
Shri. G.P. Rajaprakash
Son of Shri. S. Periya Swamy
Aged about 53 years
Residing at House No.12
2nd Main, Siddaramanna Block,
Dinnur, RT Nagar Post
Bengaluru - 560032
Defendant No.17
Smt. J. K. Rangamba
Wife of Shri. A. C. Krishna Rao
Aged about 53 years
Residing at Door No.53,
1st Cross, Nehru Nagar
Bengaluru - 560020
Defendant No.19
Shri. M.A. Cariappa
Son of Shri. M. M. Appachu
Aged about 78 years
Residing at Door No.496,
"KARUNA" Kuvempunagar
Mysuru
Defendant No. 21
Smt. N.D. Thimmaiah
Wife of Shri. N.D. Thimmaiah
Aged about 65 years
Residing at Door No. 40, Nazarabad,
Mysuru - 570010
Defendant No. 23
Smt. Vijayakumari
Wife of Shri. Baladandapani
Aged about 65 years
Residing at Door No.43
1st Floor, 2nd Cross,
Ramamohan Puram,
Bengaluru - 560021
Defendant No. 28
Ms. Roshni Cariappa
Daughter of Shri. M.A. Cariappa
Aged about 48 years
Residing at Door No. 496
"KARUNA" Kuvempunagar, Mysuru
Defendant No. 29
Smt. K. Vijayanthi
Wife of Shri. Nagendra
Aged about 62 years
Residing at Door No.53,
1st Cross, Nehru Nagar
Bengaluru - 560020
Defendant No. 30
Smt. Lalitha
Wife of Late Shri. Ramachandra
Aged about 72 years
Residing at Door No.53,
1st Cross, Nehru Nagar,
Bengaluru - 560020
Defendant No. 31
Shri. Sathya Narayana
Son of Late Shri. Ramanathan
Aged about 71 years
Residing at Door No.44/10A
11th Cross, 2nd Block, Jayanagar,
Bengaluru – 560011
Defendant No. 33
Shri. S. Mangal Murthy
Son of Shri. Omkara Murthy
Aged about 75 years
Residing at Door No. 7/18
Pleasant Park Co-Operative Housing
Society Near Bhairoba Nala
Pune - 411013
Take notice that the Plaintiff has preferred the present original suit against the Defendants seeking for the relief of declaration, injunction as against the Defendants with respect to the schedule property. This notice is caused to intimate the Defendants No.1,3,5,7,8,10,12,14,15,16,17,19,21,23,28 to 31 and 33 that the above suit is posted for their appearance of the Defendants on 30.09.24 at 11.00 AM.
In the event of failure of the above Defendants No: 1,3,5,7,8, 10,12,14,15, 16,17,19,21,23,28 to 31 and 33 to appear on the said date , the matter will be heard in your absence.
J.M.Aiyanna, Advocate
No.1143/1E, Chanakya Circle
Geetha Road, Chamarajapuram
By Order of the Hon'ble Sheristedar
Court of Addl. Senior Civil Judge
Srirangapatna
Date14.08.2024

Joint Director, Social Welfare Department, Kolar District
E-mail:jointdirector.kolar@gmail.com, office-08152-240073, Mob:9008059912
No.JD/SWD/K/OS/EST/CR-07/2024-25 Date: 22.08.2024
E-Tender Notification
Tender published/called/invited to Provide MAN POWER Services for Pre- Metric and Post-Metric Hostels and Residential school working under Social Welfare, Tribal Welfare Department and Refugee Relief Centre Kolar District as per KTPP Act 1999 and 2000. Tender related all documents are available in **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. (Based on E-Procurement updated/changes). (1)** Tender published Number: **SWD/2024-25/SE0124. (2)** Tender Amount: **RS.4,91,89,127/-. (3)** EMD Amount: **RS. 7,37,837/-. (4)** Last date and time for uploading tender documents: 01.10.2024, 5.00 PM. **(5)** Date and time for Pre-Bid Meeting: 29.08.2024, 11.00 AM. **(6)** Date and time for Technical BID: **03.10.2024, 05.30** PM. **(7)** Date and time for Financial BID: **04.10.2024, 5.30** PM. **(8)** Office address: Dr. B R Ambedkar Bhavana, Srinivaspura Main Road Kolar-563101.
Sd/- Joint Director,
Social Welfare Department, Kolar District
DIPR/KOLAR/RO:185/KSMCA/2024-25

MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MINOR IRRIGATION & G.W.D DIVISION, TUMKUR
Ref No.02/2024-25 (Turnkey basis) (TWO STAGE TENDER) "KPPP" Portal DT. 26.08.2024
PRE-QUALIFICATION SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION Dated: 26.08.2024
On behalf of the Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka, as per K.T.P.P act with latest amendments, in Turnkey Basis under "KPPP"-Portal tenders are invited for the below works mentioned under H/A 4702-00-101-3-01-139 Lift Irrigation Scheme, from the eligible contractors of suitable category registered under KPWD/CPWD/MES/any other government organization)/joint Venture is allowed. Tender publishing details are as given below.
Name of the Work: 1) Filling up of 45 tanks from Madhugiri gravity canal of Yetthinahole project for ground water augmentation in Madhugiri taluk, Tumkur district. 2) Filling up of 62 tanks from Madhugiri gravity canal of Yetthinahole project for ground water augmentation in Koratagere taluk, Tumkur district.
1. Tender will be published through KPPP Portal on: Dated: 30-08-2024. 2. Pre bid meeting will be conducted on Office of the Superindent Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department Circle, Bangalore on Dated: 09-09-2024 at 11.00 Hours. 3. Last date of queries on Dated: 09-09-2024 at 16.00 Hours.4. Last date for Receipt of completed tenders through KPPP portal may be uploaded before 16.00 Hours on Dated: 19-09-2024 5. Technical Bid will be opened on Dated: 20-09-2024 at 16.05 Hours.
For further details, visit KPPP Portal website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ or from the office undersigned, on working days. If the office happens to be closed on dates above as specified, the next working day at the same time and venue will be considered.
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
M.I & G.W.D Division, Tumkur
DIPR/TUM/285/KSMCA/2024-25

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PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME
CHANGE OF NAME
I. Smt. Leela (existing name of spouse as per NOK) is legally wedded spouse of No.6907963W Rank Ex-Hav, Name Belliappa. U.C presently residing at No.197, 6th 'B' Cross, 3d main, Jakkasandra, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560034, I have changed my Name and Date of Birth from **Leela** & **27 years** in PPO (Name of spouse as per NOK) to **B D Leela** and **20 March 1959** (Proposed new Name of Spouse), vide affidavit dated 12/8/2024 sworn to before G.Hemalatha advocate and notary Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT
I, JOHN CHARLES S/o L. Nagaraj @ Maria Ignatius, age 61 years, R/at No. 10/11, Seetha Pathi, Agrahara, Near Sri Raghavendra Mutt, New Tharagupet, Bengaluru-560 002 do hereby declare that my father's actual and original name was **L. NAGARAJ,** after he has embraced the Christianity & as per ceremony of Baptism at St. Joseph Church, Father Briand Square, Bangalore-560 002, dated 15th September, 1947, since then, my father name has been called & referred as **MARIA IGNATIUS @ IGNATIUS,** vide affidavit dated 23rd August 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **PUTTARAMAIAH** at Bangalore.

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME
I, PRATHIBHA O P, R/a No.917/954, 1st Main 19th Cross, Behind Akshaya Residency Nagawara Ring Road, Bangalore-560043 have changed my minor daughter's name from Samantha to Samantha P vide affidavit dt: 29.08.2024 sworn before Notary Uday Kumar.K, B'luru.

THANKSGIVING
THANKSGIVING

Thank you St. Expedite for answering m prayer and showering your kind love and blessings on me for my promotion in profession. My sincere prayers will continue throughout my journey. Please shower your love and blessings upon me.
- Thank you, Ramya K

TENDERS
CHENNAI PORT AUTHORITY
TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT
NO.1 RAJAJI SALAI, CHENNAI-1
E-TENDER NOTIFICATION
No.O4/103/2024/TO dt.27.08.2024
Notice inviting e-Tender in Central Public Procurement Portal through NIC for **"Contract for Operation, Management & Maintenance of Chennai Port Parking Plaza (CPPP)" on Revenue Sharing basis for a period of 06 (six) years in as is where is condition, under two cover system** from 27.08.2024 to 09.09.2024.
The Tender Notification in The Hindu dated 16.08.2024 on the above subject is rescheduled from 27.08.2024 to 09.09.2024
For further details visit Ch.P.A. website www.chennaiport.gov.in and www.eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app
TRAFFIC MANAGER

By another name

Courts should act against fake medicine, not just control advertising

On August 27, a Bench of the Supreme Court of India found itself reaching, once again, for idioms over a matter involving misleading advertisements of ayurveda, siddha, and unani products. Earlier this year, another Bench had concluded proceedings against Patanjali Ayurved over its defiance of an order to not publicise unproven or unprovable medicinal claims attached to its products. Towards the end of that matter, various State-level regulatory agencies were finally roused to act against Patanjali Ayurved over these claims while the Court ordered it to publish media advertisements apologising for its actions. While the responses of the State bodies to the company are still evolving, the Court's own verdict seemed to embody a belief that nothing more could be done – and this belief casts the Court's current ire against the Ministry of AYUSH in a particular light. India's drug manufacturers and regulators are caught between ensuring high quality, which leads to higher manufacturing costs, while keeping consumer prices down so that patients can access the drugs they need. Unfortunately, neither regulators nor manufacturers have navigated this tension in the patients' favour. The AYUSH Ministry's actions have further complicated this scenario by allowing businesses to register all sorts of products as "Ayurvedic" (as illustrated in the case of its licence, and later cancelled, to a Bengaluru-based company to sell milk as "Ayurvedic proprietary medicine") and by attempting to evade existing quality rules, presumably to grease the wheels of businesses.

With the Ministry's cynical attempt now to sidestep Rule 170 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules 1945, which penalises misleading advertisements of ayurveda, siddha, and unani products, the Court confronts an old tendency in a new disguise. Public apologies and *post facto* action by regulatory bodies may have been the end of the line against one company. The Court may also seem sated by a demand, as it spelled out in its May 7 order, that all advertisers self-declare that they will not publish misleading advertisements. But similar concessionary measures will falter against a Ministry. Medicine quality and manufacturer inspections are disuniform, more so in the alternative medicines space, and regulating advertisements has emerged as a last-ditch backstop against bad products entering the market. In the face of progressively weakening protections against what is ultimately fake medicine, the most preferred outcome in the present matter would be for the Court to look at past declarations – self-made or otherwise – and into rectifying the quality-control regime, particularly to empower it, protect it from political capture, and bring alternative medicines under its purview.

Biotech enigma

Biotechnology initiatives need long-term capital investments

Earlier this week the Cabinet cleared a proposal, though without specifying a budget, called BioE3 or Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment. Its thrust is to boost manufacturing in the biotechnology sector. Since 1986, India has had a dedicated department for biotechnology, and which deserves substantial credit. For instance, the progress in vaccine development, diagnostics and biologicals, that has bolstered India's reputation as a 'vaccine factory', is due to the initiatives of this department. However, biotechnology did not quite spawn the equivalent of the IT revolution. There is much more to an industrialised biotechnology sector beyond vaccines. There are billion-dollar conglomerates today that rest on high-value microbes, gene-modification technologies, bio-plastics, bio-materials, and high-precision medical devices. However, despite the know-how and human resource capital, only a few Indian biotechs have global resonance, as there are few local manufacturers who can supply Indian laboratories/startups with the ingredients and devices to make products. The reliance on imports means that India loses its international competitiveness. The BioE3 policy aims to correct this.

In the last four decades, India has funded biotech research institutions but now sees that it needs to be going beyond and setting up companies, in public private partnership mode, to bolster biotechnology manufacturing. There are six verticals that this initiative envisages: bio-based chemicals and enzymes; functional foods and smart proteins; precision biotherapeutics; climate-resilient agriculture; carbon capture, and futuristic marine and space research. Futurists have been saying that the era of fossil-fuel industrialisation is over and humanity will have to rely on the natural world – for food and for making consumer products. This is to solve the global problem of non-biodegradable waste and carbon emissions. Future industries must be grounded in environmentally benign products, and this is impossible without sophisticated biotechnology. By setting up bio-foundries and bio-artificial intelligence hubs, the policy hopes there will be avenues for a variety of biotechnologists to congregate. Well intentioned this may be, but India's woes with manufacturing have chronic causes. Without establishing enabling grounds for long-term capital investment – and these have little to do with biotechnology per se – top-down initiatives will have limited impact. The BioE3 policy must be a deeply collaborative effort between Centre and States. Rather than expect quick returns, the government must provide financial and infrastructural support over the long term.

Connecting the dots in the Kyiv visit

In a historical and widely publicised meeting, Prime Minister Narendra Modi met with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Kyiv, drawing significant attention from academics and journalists worldwide. While India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) emphasised that the meeting was not intended as an effort at mediation, the timing and the nature of this visit raise several questions, especially considering India's traditionally cautious approach to foreign policy. Although the MEA was careful not to attract press attention due to the nature of the visit, much of the discussion in post-meeting briefings by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar centred around the potential role of India in mediating the conflict. The visit came at a difficult time for any immediate peace initiative by India as Ukraine opened a new front of war with a surprise incursion in the Kursk region.

Amitabh Singh

teaches at the Centre for Russian and Central Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Vivek Pandey

a doctoral candidate at the Centre for Russian and Central Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

A consistent foreign policy approach

Historically rooted in non-alignment and strategic autonomy, India's foreign policy has always sought to balance its relationships with global powers and a peaceful negotiation of territorial disputes. Since the onset of the Russia-Ukraine war in February 2022, India has avoided taking sides, much to the ire of the western states, which have wanted India to condemn the Russian role in the conflict. This approach is consistent with India's broader strategy of managing complex geopolitical landscapes without compromising its national interests. India has always advocated respect for the United Nations charter and peaceful settlement of disputes through institutions such as the UN.

In February this year, Mr. Jaishankar, in an interview with the German economic daily, *Handelsblatt*, hinted at the possibility of India's interest in playing a mediating role in the conflict if approached. However, he emphasised that New Delhi would not take the initiative on its own.

Given this backdrop, Mr. Modi's visit to Ukraine had some sort of peace initiative on the agenda. The possibility of enhancing bilateral relations with Ukraine appeared slim. India is not dependent on Ukraine for trade, defence, or technology. Opening a new front of bilateral engagement with Kyiv at this point would be risky and fraught with danger. However, if we carefully connect the dots, a possible rationale for the visit begins to appear.

The visit is being interpreted by many analysts as a balancing act by India, especially after Mr. Modi's recent visit to Russia, which attracted criticism from western powers. By engaging with both Russia and Ukraine, India could position itself as a neutral player in the conflict, reinforcing its image as a responsible global actor committed to peace and stability while also projecting sovereignty in dealing with issues of international politics. This approach aligns with India's historical role as a mediator in international conflicts, dating back to its involvement in the Korean War armistice negotiations and the Colombo Plan.

> There are firm reasons why the Prime Minister Modi's visit to Ukraine could have had some sort of peace initiative on the agenda

A possible broader strategy, the interests

Moreover, the visit could be part of a broader strategy to play a more active role as a mediator or "communicator" in the language of the MEA. During his visit to India in March, Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Dmytro Kuleba explicitly requested India's help in restoring "just and lasting peace" in Ukraine. This appeal allows India to step into a more active role in the negotiation, leveraging its unique position as a country that maintains strong ties with both Moscow and Washington. This attempt is also being seen by analysts as putting weight to the already ongoing effort from Global South countries in the negotiation. India, as one of the prominent members of the Global South, is trying to play its role in achieving peace in this conflict.

To understand the full implications of Mr. Modi's visit, it is important to consider the interests of key international stakeholders in this war, particularly the United States and European countries. The U.S. has consistently emphasised that any negotiations over the Ukrainian conflict should only occur from a position of strength.

The recent advances by Ukrainian forces, particularly in the Kursk region, could be considered as a part of this broader strategy to negotiate from a position of strength. A temporary cessation of hostilities or a limited peace agreement facilitated by a neutral party such as India might serve the interests of all parties involved. For the U.S., such an outcome could provide relief from the escalating conflict/war while allowing U.S. President Joe Biden to focus on other pressing foreign policy challenges such as the one in West Asia.

European countries, meanwhile, are desperate to see a resolution to the conflict, especially as the war continues to hurt their economies and increases energy security concerns. With winter approaching, European countries face the prospect of further economic hardship due to energy shortages and inflationary pressures. A temporary peace, even if not a comprehensive solution, would alleviate some of these challenges and provide breathing room for European policymakers.

Among all the stakeholders, Mr. Biden may be the most desperate for an end to the war. Since announcing his decision not to seek re-election in 2024, Mr. Biden has focused on solidifying his foreign policy legacy, particularly in areas where former U. S. President Donald Trump might diverge significantly. Mr. Biden's decision to step back from the presidential race could free him from domestic political constraints, allowing him to pursue important diplomatic initiatives. One such initiative could be brokering a solution to the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Taking this forward, Mr. Modi also spoke to Mr. Biden and Russian President Vladimir Putin, probably to apprise them of his visit. For Mr. Biden, bringing Russia to the negotiation table before the end of his tenure would represent a significant foreign policy achievement, particularly in light of Mr. Trump's stated intention to withdraw support from Ukraine unless it agrees to negotiate with Russia. Mr. Biden's reliance on India, which enjoys good relations with Russia, could be crucial in achieving this objective.

From Moscow's perspective, India represents the best option for mediation. The long-standing friendship between Russia and India, forged during the Cold War and maintained through decades of military and economic cooperation, provides a level of trust that would be difficult to replicate with other potential mediators, even not so with China. For Mr. Putin, engaging in negotiations through a neutral party such as India could offer a honourable exit from the conflict/war without appearing to surrender to western pressure.

Impact on India

For Mr. Modi, this diplomatic initiative could be a legacy-defining moment. Despite his considerable achievements on the international stage, he has faced significant challenges on the domestic front, including a disappointing performance in the 2024 general election and growing economic concerns. A successful mediation effort in the Russia-Ukraine conflict could bolster his reputation as a global statesman and enhance his standing both at home and abroad.

Mr. Modi's involvement in resolving the conflict would align with his broader vision of India as a "*Vishwamitra*", a country that contributes to global economic and technological advancements and plays a central role in maintaining international peace and security.

Despite the potential benefits of India's involvement, the path to achieving even a temporary peace in Ukraine is fraught with challenges. Both the parties to the war have taken maximalist positions, with either side refusing to budge from its stand. The geopolitical interests of the U.S. and Russia are deeply entrenched, and both powers are unlikely to agree on a peace deal proposed by the other. Moreover, the involvement of various international actors in this war, make any negotiation process highly complicated.

However, India's unique position as a trusted partner of both Russia and the West could allow it to facilitate a temporary ceasefire or a limited peace agreement that serves the immediate interests of all parties involved. Such an outcome, while not a permanent solution, would be a significant step towards de-escalating the conflict and providing much-needed relief to all the parties involved.

Moving the spotlight to grassroots democracy

The Election Commission of India (ECI), with its track record of conducting free and fair elections, and on time, to Parliament and State legislatures, has emerged as one of independent India's most credible institutions. Yet, there are 34 State Election Commissions (SECs) that need serious attention and strengthening.

Systemic disempowerment of SECs

The SECs were brought into existence by Articles 243K and 243ZA of the Constitution (introduced by the 73rd and 74th amendments in 1993), which vested them with the superintendence, direction, and control of the preparation of the electoral rolls for, and the conduct of, all elections to panchayats and urban local governments (ULGs). In reality, however, SECs are increasingly disempowered and, in certain cases, even in litigation with their State governments.

In a recent case, the Karnataka SEC filed a contempt petition against the Government of Karnataka for reneging on its commitment to the High Court in response to an earlier petition filed by the SEC to allow it to proceed with the delimitation of panchayat raj institutions and conduct elections (already delayed by over three and a half years). The Karnataka government had assured the High Court in December 2023 that it would publish the delimitation and reservation details within two weeks to enable the SEC to conduct elections. In another set of cases filed by the Andhra Pradesh SEC and several others in 2020, the Supreme Court struck down an ordinance of Andhra Pradesh, which hindered elections to the panchayat raj institutions.

Our analysis of the performance audits of the implementation of the 74th Constitutional (Amendment) Act by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India across 18 States shows that 1,560 out of 2,240 urban local governments (70%) did not have an elected council at the time of the CAG audit. The CAG, in its Karnataka report, observed that the disempowerment of SECs is, more often than not, the cause for delays in on time elections. Such delays undermine local governments and erode the trust of citizens in these important public institutions.

Srikanth Viswanathan

CEO at the Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy

Santosh Nargund

Head, Participatory Governance at the Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy

> Empowering and reforming the State Election Commissions are crucial steps

Janaagraha's Annual Survey of India's City Systems (ASICS), 2023 shows that only 11 out of 34 States and Union Territories have empowered SECs to conduct ward delimitation. These States and Union Territories (namely, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Ladakh, Maharashtra, and West Bengal) account for only 35% of India's population, as in the 2011 Census.

Electoral reforms to strengthen third tier

Regular and fair elections to local governments are non-negotiable for meaningful grass-roots democracy and ensuring effective first-mile service delivery in the cities and the villages of the country. The requirement to conduct elections before the expiry of the five-year term of elected local governments is a constitutional mandate and must be as sacrosanct as the elections to the Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabhas. To ensure this, SECs must be fully empowered on all matters of local government elections, on a par with the Election Commission of India, as observed by the Supreme Court in *Kishan Singh Tomar vs Municipal Corporation of the City of Ahmedabad and Others* (2006). The following reforms are a must in order to bring about this change:

First, there is a need to bring SECs on a par with the Election Commission of India in terms of transparency and independence in constitution and appointment. Notwithstanding the recent dilution in the case of the Election Commission of India, can we not aspire to a three-member SEC which is appointed by a committee that comprises the Chief Minister, Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Sabha), and the Chief Justice of the High Court? A State government-appointed SEC is just not working. The Union government should amend the 74th Constitutional (Amendment) Act in this context.

Second, the delimitation of ward boundaries and reservations of seats must be mandated only at fixed intervals, say once in 10 years. The absence of this check can lead to State governments acting arbitrarily, causing undue delays in elections to local governments.

Third, the powers of ward delimitation and reservation of seats for local governments must be vested in the SECs. Further, the SECs must be entrusted with reservations to the positions of mayors/presidents, deputy mayors/vice-presidents of the local governments, say once in 10 years, where applicable. Elections to these positions are delayed inordinately after local elections as State governments fail to publish the reservation roster to these positions on time.

Finally, malpractices by presiding officers appointed by the State governments have also emerged – an example is the election of the Mayor in the Chandigarh Municipal Corporation Council in 2024. SECs, therefore, should possibly be entrusted with the election of mayors, presidents, chairpersons, and standing committees.

The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

President's anguish

The rape and the murder of a trainee lady doctor at the R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital, Kolkata is an unpardonable crime.

It is heartening that the President of India (Page 1, "Counter mindset that sees women as less capable: Murmu", August 29) has declared that "enough is enough". However, could the ruling party at the Centre be gunning for the ouster of the Mamata Banerjee-led government in West Bengal? This is an unanswered question in the minds of the people.

Tharcius S. Fernando,
Chennai

Rising crimes against women are a jolt to society. We have a fundamental duty to contribute towards bringing order to ensure dignity and respect for women, so that they can live with a sense of pride, freedom and confidence.

R. Sivakumar,
Chennai

Rarely does an incumbent first citizen of the country express his/her concern over incidents that have an adverse impact on the well-being of society. The phrase 'enough is enough' is apt and cogent.

V. Johan Dhanakumar,
Chennai

The remark made by the President, that 'enough is enough', has not come a day too soon. But her words would have carried greater moral authority had she referred to the atrocities in Manipur and crimes in BJP-ruled States.

G. David Milton,
Maruthancode, Tamil Nadu

Mental health on campuses

Mental health on college campuses has become a prominent issue as students face rising academic, social, and financial pressures. There is stress. There are burnouts. According to the American College Health Association, 60% of students were reported to have felt anxiety and 40% experienced depression that was severe enough to impact daily college life. Academic pressure, a lack of support, personal challenges and financial stress contribute to depression. There is a need for comprehensive mental health-care systems that can support students holistically. Institutions must invest more in mental health resources to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness and create an environment where students feel comfortable seeking help.

Jessica Olive,
Chennai

Should lateral entry in the civil services be encouraged?

PARLEY

Ashok Vardhan Shetty

retired IAS officer from the Tamil Nadu cadre and former vice chancellor of the Indian Maritime University

Harsh Shrivastava,

a former CEO of the Microfinance Institutions Network, was deputy speech writer to Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and consultant in the Planning Commission

Last week, just days after issuing an advertisement for 45 lateral entry posts (10 Joint Secretary positions and 35 Director and Deputy Secretary positions), the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) withdrew it after receiving a massive backlash. The Opposition parties accused the government of attempting to bypass reservation policies and "snatching away" jobs from Other Backward Classes (OBCs), Scheduled Castes (SCs), and Scheduled Tribes (STs). Should lateral entry in civil services be encouraged? Ashok Vardhan Shetty and Harsh Shrivastava discuss the question in a conversation moderated by **Priscilla Jebaraj**. Edited excerpts:

What is the need for hiring people from outside the IAS (Indian Administrative Service)?

Ashok Vardhan Shetty: We definitely need expertise. Nobody objects to hiring experts as advisors or as consultants. What is objectionable is hiring people as Deputy Secretaries, Directors, and Joint Secretaries because these are administrative posts, they are secretarial posts; an expert is not suited for these kinds of posts. The combined civil services exam is one of the toughest. Last year, out of 13 lakh applicants, only 1,016 were selected, of which about 180 were selected for the IAS. People go through this tough exam and then put in nine years of service to become a Deputy Secretary in the Central Secretariat, they put in 12 years to become a Director, and at least 16 years to become a Joint Secretary. Lateral entrants, on the other hand, will walk in on the basis of a resume and a half-an-hour interview.

Harsh Shrivastava: The advertised posts for about disaster management, semiconductors, FinTech, investment, emerging tech... they are very specialised posts. Regular officers may not have this expertise. I would like to differentiate between implementation and policymaking. These officers who are being hired as lateral entrants are for policymaking; that is where their expertise is needed. For implementation, which is typically in the State and not in the Union government, you would need IAS officers who are generalists.

AVS: It is not true that policymaking is separate from implementation; they are intimately connected. You cannot make good policy unless you also have experience of implementation. When policymaking is divorced from implementation, you end up making airy-fairy policies, which will flop.

Family members of aspirants wait outside an examination centre during the UPSC civil services preliminary exam in New Delhi. THE HINDU

You must also look at what happened in Pakistan. In 1972, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto set up an administrative reforms commission which said the same things – that the civil services of Pakistan is full of generalists, and what we need is specialisation. So, Bhutto said, lateral entry is necessary. And he started appointing party people, party loyalists, in posts from Deputy Secretary to Secretary. After he fell from power, General Zia Haq dismissed Bhutto's appointees. But he started inducting military people through lateral entry into the Pakistan civil service. Today, the Pakistan civil service is a mess.

Lateral entry, by whatever name it is called, is just a euphemism for the spoils system. That is, political parties trying to favour their partypersons under the guise of bringing in specialists. I don't mind if these people appear for a tough written test on their domain of expertise and then go through a rigorous interview. But selecting them purely on the basis of their resume and conducting an interview is very dangerous. Even if it is done properly in the initial few years, in the long run, it is bound to degenerate into a spoils system. Political loyalties, cronyism, nepotism, and corruption will creep in.

What would you suggest to prevent such a crony system from taking root?

HS: This argument can be extended to anything. What is to stop the UPSC, when it conducts interviews of IAS aspirants, from looking at their ideological leanings and leaving out people who are not ideologically aligned?

Also, nowadays, we know everything about everybody. We have LinkedIn profiles, social media feeds. If the UPSC took somebody who had nothing to do with semiconductors as the Joint Secretary for semiconductors, I'm sure

> Lateral entry is just a euphemism for the spoils system. That is, political parties trying to favour their partypersons under the guise of bringing in specialists.
> **ASHOK VARDHAN SHETTY**

questions will be asked, PILs will be filed, and the Supreme Court will hold the UPSC chairperson in contempt.

AVS: An interview alone is insufficient to test expertise. The recent case of Puja Khedkar is an example of why the interview can be misleading. She scored more marks in the interview than most IAS toppers. The UPSC interview board could not spot that she was faking her identity. So, an interview alone is not a reliable guide of expertise of a person's attitude and personality.

At what ranks do you think it would be most suitable to bring in people from outside?

AVS: Either you select people at the entry level through a tough competitive exam or you should bring in lateral entrants at the Secretary level. At the highest level, if you bring in somebody like a Manmohan Singh or a V. Krishnamurty or a M.S. Swaminathan, there is no problem because their expertise is beyond doubt. But at the mid-level, the expertise of the person is open to question. I'm not ruling out the possibility of someone like a Bill Gates or a Mark Zuckerberg doing wonderful things in their 20s and 30s, but those are not the kinds of people who are going to apply for the posts of Director, Deputy Secretary, and Joint Secretary in government.

HS: I would say at the Joint Secretary level because they have experience and can be of help in policymaking. The point of being an officer and not a consultant is that you have the authority of getting something done and you can direct people beneath you and you are responsible to the people above you. Somebody who has worked in a top company, assuming they want to take a salary cut and join the government, would bring a certain style of working, of conducting meetings, of not just going through endless rounds of papers and not taking a decision. They will get things done and make out-of-box suggestions. We should learn from some companies about how they take on board outsiders as seniors.

The reason the policy was actually rolled back was the Opposition's accusation that the government was bypassing reservations for lateral entry hires. Is the Opposition right?

HS: No. First, the government did not say, 'We were hiring 500 officers every year and now we will hire only 455 officers under the existing reservations and will take 45 directly.' These are additional officers. Second, the government could have said that at least in one third of these seats, preference will be given to women or SCs and STs. But these are additions. They are not going to take away existing jobs.

AVS: I beg to differ. These are not additional posts. These posts are carved out of the existing posts of Joint Secretary, Director, and Deputy Secretary. They are affecting the promotion prospects of existing career bureaucrats. In fact, during the UPA (United Progressive Alliance)-2 government, there was a recommendation that 10% of the total posts be earmarked for lateral entry. Of course, it was never acted upon.

Regarding reservations, there are already standard norms saying there is 15% reservation for SCs, 7.5% for STs, 27% for OBCs, and 10% for EWS (economically weaker sections), among other classes. The Department of Personnel and Training's own instructions are that reservations must apply for any post, even if it is a contractual post, if it is of more than 45 days duration. These posts are three years to five years. So, reservations should have applied to them.

But there is another provision which says if it is a standalone post, or what they call a single-post cadre, reservations need not apply. This applies to situations where there is one post of Vice Chancellor or one MD of a public sector undertaking. The UPSC has treated each of these Joint Secretary, Director, and Deputy Secretary posts as subject-specific, and through this narrow definition, it has converted non-standalone posts into standalone posts and then called them as single-post cadres and not applied reservation.

The government at the highest level has realised that there is a problem here. So, the Minister for Personnel, Jitendra Singh, wrote to the UPSC saying the government would like to re-examine this matter, which I think was the right thing to do. Otherwise, theoretically, each post's job description is unique, so you can always argue that every post is a stand-alone post and reservations won't apply.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

The bus to Kyiv

Takeaways from a journey from Poland to Ukraine

Dinakar Peri

Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi embarked on a train journey from Poland to Ukraine. It may be an odd mode of transport for a Prime Minister, but all the leaders of the world have been taking this train, labelled 'Rail Force One', ever since Ukraine's airspace was closed following Russia's invasion in February 2022.

Mr. Modi was to arrive in Kyiv on the morning of August 23. After briefly attending the diaspora event addressed by Mr. Modi, I climbed into a bus bound for Kyiv in Ukraine, along with three other Indian journalists, at the Warsaw West Bus Station in Poland, at 9:15 p.m. on August 21. We chose to travel by bus since the direct train from Warsaw to Kyiv was fully booked. The other option was to change trains at Chelm, a city in Poland bordering Ukraine, but that would have been an 18-hour journey and there were again no tickets at short notice. The bus was scheduled to reach Kyiv at noon on August 22 (Kyiv is an hour ahead of Warsaw). It was scheduled to be a 15 hour-long journey. We had been warned by some journalists that the border crossing would take time, especially by road, but nothing prepared us for the journey.

The bus ride itself indicated how Ukraine was a nation at war. Nearly all the travellers were Ukrainian women since Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has banned men between the ages of 18 and 60 from leaving, arguing that they should instead stay back and defend their country. Some men have reportedly found a way around this, but it is mostly women who travel outside and to Ukraine nowadays.

We left the station at 9:30 p.m. as scheduled and reached the border crossing at around 3 a.m. We were already a couple of hours behind schedule. At the large complex, we were first stopped by Polish immigration authorities. An officer from the Polish border control collected our passports. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) had issued a note verbale with the names of all the journalists travelling to cover the Prime Minister's visit, so we assumed it would be a smooth ride. But we were forced to wait for an hour to get our passports back.

The next stop was 200 metres ahead. It was the Ukrainian border control. There again authorities collected our passports and disappeared. Another long hour went by. Finally, an officer summoned the four of us and we trooped behind him into an office. Ten minutes later, I was the first to be called into a room. The immigration officer, accompanied by another officer in plain clothes, asked me many questions: what was the purpose of my visit? Which media house did I belong to? What beat did I cover? He checked the MEA's note verbale, my hotel booking, my return ticket, and my office ID.

Then he looked up, eyebrows raised. "You have been to Russia?" he asked. "Why? Where did you go?" I explained that India has a long-standing relationship with Russia in the field of defence and as a defence correspondent, I had visited the country to cover a defence expo. It was only after half an hour of interrogation that he finally seemed convinced. He asked me to tell the other three journalists to have their documents ready. They had it easy and returned grinning from his room, each within 10 minutes of being summoned. The officers took some more time to stamp our passports.

To add to the delay and frustration, there were no functional wash rooms. We felt guilty that all the women on the bus were stranded because of us. But they did not grumble and we finally boarded the bus. Hours later, in Ukraine, we stopped at a wash room only to encounter a new problem: while the Polish zloty is accepted in many areas in Ukraine, it was not allowed there. No one spoke English either. As I wondered what to do, a young woman from the bus, who was behind me in the queue, promptly went to the counter and paid eight hryvnia (about ₹16) for me.

Nearly 21 hours later, we reached Kyiv after having learned that there can be many hurdles even if we carry a note verbale from the MEA and that even during war time, strangers can be patient and kind.

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PICTURE OF THE WEEK

A leap of faith

Devotees help a man jump as he tries to reach the dahi handi or curd pot, suspended in the air above a water well, during Janmashtami, which marks the birth of the Hindu god, Krishna, in Kurdus village near Alibaug, Raigad district, Maharashtra. EMMANUAL YOGINI

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 30, 1974

Seats in Parliament for Sikkim: Bill soon

New Delhi, Aug. 29: The Union Cabinet to-day accepted Sikkim's request for representation in the Indian Parliament, but Sikkim will continue to retain its protectorate status without becoming an integral part of the Indian Union as a result of its new political "association".

A Constitution Amendment Bill, enabling Sikkim to have one elected representative each in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, will be passed by Parliament next week to empower the "association" of this Himalayan territory with the Indian Union, within the framework of the recent resolutions adopted by the Sikkim Assembly seeking participation in the Indian political institutions, planning processes and parliamentary system.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO AUGUST 30, 1924

Serious Railway collision

Lahore, Aug. 29: A serious collision took place this morning shortlyafter 1 a.m. between 24 down and 43 up passenger trains near Harappa Road. Owing to interruptions in telephone line, full details are still lacking. The train containing the injured is expected at Lahore station at about 1 p.m. Line is blocked, but passengers are being transhipped.

From Page One

Aviation regulator places SpiceJet under strict watch

In Guwahati, nearly 80 loaders, drivers, and cleaners refused to report for duty for the second day in a row on Thursday and held a demonstration outside the airport to protest the delay. Later in the evening, the airline released July's salary for some of them.

"We earn a meagre ₹15,000 per month which the airline is unable to pay us. Many of us haven't been able to pay rent to our landlords," said one staff member from Guwahati on the condition of anonymity.

Another staff member from Bengaluru who works in SpiceJet's security department described a similar ordeal. "Many of us are surviving only on one meal a day. My family is vulnerable because I have a two-month-old child, and therefore, I asked my wife to mortgage her jewellery to be able to pay ₹7,000 to the landlord," he said.

Actor-MLA Mukesh and six others booked

The order came on an anticipatory bail plea moved by the actor, who submitted that he was ready to cooperate with the investigation and to appear before the investigation officer.

Actor and former general secretary of the Association of Malayalam Movie Artistes (AMMA) Edavela Babu too was booked on the same charges. V.S. Chandrasekharan, who stepped down as Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee legal aid cell chairman and president of the Lawyers' Congress State committee, was booked under IPC Sections 376 (rape) and 120B (criminal conspiracy). Actor and former office-bearer of AMMA, Maniyanpilla Raju, and production controller Noble have been booked under IPC Sections 354 and 509.

SC slams Telangana CM for his remarks on Kavitha's bail

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

A. Revanth Reddy

The Supreme Court on Thursday accused Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of making "irresponsible" comments amounting to "casting aspersions" on the court for granting bail to Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) leader K. Kavitha in the Delhi excise policy case.

Mr. Reddy is reported in the media to have said that Ms. Kavitha got bail because of a deal between the BRS and the BJP. Other Congress and BJP leaders had also issued statements.

"Do we pass our orders in consultation with parties? We are not bothered by politicians' criticism of our orders. We do our duty as per the Constitution and our oath," Justice B.R. Gavai addressed senior advocates Mukul Rohatgi and Siddharth Luthra, appearing for Mr. Reddy.

Senior advocate Menaka Guruswamy and advocate Sravan Kumar appeared for the State of Telangana.

Justice K.V. Viswanathan, on the Bench, said a sense of mutual respect was as important as maintaining an arm's length among the three organs of governance. The Bench, pointing to media reports of Mr. Revanth's comments, accused him of challenging the authority of the Supreme Court.

3 terrorists killed in two operations in J&K: Army

Press Trust of India
RAJOURI/JAMMU

Three terrorists have been killed in two separate anti-infiltration operations along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district, the Army said on Thursday. Operations in the Machhal and Tangdhar areas were launched on Wednesday.

In a post on X, the Army's Srinagar-based Chinar Corps said, "Based on intelligence inputs with respect to likely infiltration bids, a joint operation was launched by the Indian Army and the Jammu and Kashmir Police on the intervening night of August 28 and 29 in the general area Machhal, Kupwara." "Suspicious movement was observed in bad weather and was engaged with effective firing by troops; two terrorists are likely to have been neutralised," it said. The Army said another terrorist is believed to have been killed in an operation along the LoC in the Tangdhar area.

India, China hold 31st WMCC meeting to iron out issues

The two countries agree for intensified contact through diplomatic and military channels to narrow down differences, find resolution to issues

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Peace pact: India and China has decided to 'jointly uphold' peace and tranquillity on the ground in the border areas. AFP

India and China had a "frank, constructive and forward-looking exchange of views" on the situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) to "narrow down the differences" and find an "early resolution" of the outstanding issues, at the 31st meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC) in Beijing on Thursday, according to a statement from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

The meeting comes within a month of the 30th WMCC meeting held on July 31. "... The two sides had a frank, constructive, and forward-looking exchange of views on the situation along the LAC to narrow down the differences and find early resolution of outstanding issues. For this, they further agreed for intensified contact through diplomatic and military channels," the statement said.

The Indian delegation was led by Gourangalal Das, Joint Secretary (East Asia) in the MEA, while the Chinese delegation was led by Hong Liang, Director General of the Boundary & Ocean Affairs Department of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Both sides decided to "jointly uphold" peace and tranquillity on the ground in border areas in accordance with relevant bilateral agreements, protocols, and understandings reached between the two governments.

NSA Ajit Doval arrives in Colombo on two-day visit

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Sources, from different political parties, confirmed they were invited for meetings with the top Indian official

National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit K. Doval arrived in Colombo on Thursday morning, official sources told *The Hindu*, to follow up on the ongoing Colombo Security Conclave (CSC) initiative.

He is also scheduled to meet with political leaders in Colombo.

There is no official statement so far on Mr. Doval's visit, which is taking place three weeks before Sri Lanka's Presidential elections, scheduled for September 21.

Colombo-based sources from different political parties confirmed they were invited for meetings with the top Indian official.

To review deliberations

During his visit, Mr. Doval is scheduled to review deliberations of the conclave, a regional initiative, that began as a trilateral effort among India, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives. It has since expanded to include Mauritius and Bangladesh as members, and the Seychelles as an observer.

The sixth NSA-level meeting was hosted by Mauritius in December 2023, and the next meeting of the security chiefs will be held in India later this year, according to a Ministry of External Affairs statement issued last month.

On July 10, the eighth Deputy NSA-level meeting of the CSC took place virtually.

India, Mauritius, the Maldives, and Sri Lanka welcomed Bangladesh as the fifth member state of the grouping set up to counter China's growing influence in the Indian Ocean Region. The Seychelles participated as an observer.

Alleged audio clips of calls from hospital to victim's parents out

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

People protest against the rape and murder of a trainee doctor, in Kolkata, on Thursday.

Audio recordings of phone calls allegedly made by authorities of R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata to the parents of the doctor who was raped and murdered surfaced on social media on Thursday sparking allegations that the hospital authorities had not only peddled disinformation but were insensitive to the bereaved patients.

Three audio clips were aired by a television news channel, which contains voices of the parents of the deceased doctor and a hospital official.

In the first two conversations, the hospital official is heard informing the parents that their daughter was very ill and they should come to the hospital immediately. In the third and final clip, the caller who identified herself as the assistant superintendent of the hospital says, "Yes, please listen... we were repeatedly telling you before... your daughter... may have... died by suicide... or, she may have passed away. The police are here. We are calling you to ask you to come down quickly".

The Hindu has not independently verified the authenticity of the audio clips, and neither the parents of the victim nor the hospital authorities have said that the audio clips were fake.

Indrani Mukherjee, Deputy Commissioner of Central Division of Kolkata Police, said the audio clips prove that the Kolkata Police did not say that the death was due to suicide.

Kharge slams Modi govt. over women's safety, calls for a fear-free environment

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Hitting out at the Centre over the issue of women's safety, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Thursday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi had talked about the issue many times in his speeches from the Red Fort, but his government had done little to prevent crimes against women.

Mr. Kharge's comment comes a day after President Droupadi Murmu made a rare public statement on the rape and murder of a young doctor at the West Bengal government-run R. G. Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata.

He said that crimes against women were a serious issue, and preventing them was a challenge for the country. "We all have to unite and find solutions to this by taking along every section of society," Mr. Kharge said in a post on X.

"... Women need safety, not protection. Every hour, 43 crimes against women are recorded in the country. Every day, 22 crimes are registered against women and children of the most vulnerable Dalit-tribal class of our country. There are countless crimes that are not even registered – out of fear, intimidation, social reasons," he said.

Mr. Kharge said the government had not done anything concrete to curb crimes against women. "On the contrary, his party has also assassinated the character of the victim many times, which is shameful," he said. "Has our criminal justice system improved? Are the exploited and deprived sections of society now able to live in a safe environment?" he asked.

"The Constitution has given equal status to women... now the time has come for us to take every step that can ensure a fear-free environment for women," he said.

'Did not threaten doctors'

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee on Thursday said she did not threaten the junior doctors protesting at State-run hospitals against the rape and murder of a junior doctor at the R.G. Kar Medical College. "Let me most emphatically clarify that I have not uttered a single word against the students or their movements. I totally support their movement. This allegation is completely false," Ms. Banerjee posted on X.

'Muslim marriage registration is compulsory'

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The 126-member Assam Assembly on Thursday passed a Bill to make the registration of Muslim marriages and divorces with the government compulsory.

The Assam Compulsory Registration of Muslim Marriages and Divorces Bill, 2024, will replace the British-era Assam Moslem Marriages and Divorces Registration Act, 1935.

Terming the Bill historic, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said the government aimed to do away with the Qazi system, apart from preventing child marriage among Muslims.

"This Act will now make it mandatory to register marriages with the government and cannot contravene the legal age of marriage of 18 years for girls and 21 years for boys. It will also act as a strict deterrent against teenage pregnancy and improve the overall growth of girls," he said.

Pakistan invites PM Modi to the SCO meet in Islamabad

Press Trust of India
ISLAMABAD

Narendra Modi

Pakistan on Thursday invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's Council of Heads of Government meeting to be held here in October.

Pakistan holds the rotating chairmanship of the SCO Council of Heads of Government and in that capacity, will be hosting the two-day in-person SCO Heads of Governments Meeting in October.

"Invitations have been sent to the heads of countries to participate in the meeting which will take place on October 15-16. An invitation has also been sent to Mr. Modi," Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch told presspersons.

Some countries have confirmed participation, which will be informed to the public soon, she said.

When asked about ties with India, the spokesperson said: "Pakistan does not have direct bilateral trade with India." The Islamabad summit meeting will be preceded by a Ministerial meeting and several rounds of senior officials' meetings focused on financial, economic, sociocultural, and humanitarian cooperation among the SCO member States.

SC protects jobs of govt. employees whose castes, tribes were de-scheduled

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Jobs of the staff must be protected as they had obtained the certificates without misrepresentation, says Supreme Court

The Supreme Court on Thursday protected the jobs of government and bank staffers who got employment on Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe certificates, but whose castes and tribes were later de-scheduled.

The judgment by a Bench of Justices Hima Kohli and Sandeep Mehta concerned employees of Canara Bank, Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd., and Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. who had secured jobs between 1978 and 1987 based on caste certificates issued by Karnataka.

These certificates were invalidated after the Supreme Court's 2001 ruling in State of *Maharashtra v Milind* that only Parliament can modify Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe lists under Articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution.

The key issue raised by the petitioners, represented by advocates K.V. Dhananjay and A. Velan, was whether employees who joined services based on SC/ST certificates issued by the Karnataka government could retain their positions after the caste/tribe was de-scheduled.

The petitioners asked the court to examine the validity and applicability of Karnataka government circulars of March 11, 2002 and March 29, 2003 protecting these employees. The effect of the Ministry of Finance's communication of August 17, 2005 endorsing the Karnataka government's approach also came under judicial scrutiny in the case. Justice Mehta, who authored the verdict, held that the jobs of the employees must be protected as they had obtained the certificates without misrepresentation and following due process under then-prevailing State circulars.

It upheld Karnataka government circulars that aimed to protect such employees. The court, however, clarified that the employees would not be entitled to any future SC/ST category benefits.

Brij Bhushan's plea 'oblique', says HC; seeks detailed note

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Thursday took exception to former Wrestling Federation of India chief and former BJP MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh's filing of a single petition against the order framing charges against him, and also seeking the quashing of the FIR, chargesheet and other proceedings in a sexual harassment case.

Justice Neena Bansal Krishna termed the petition "oblique". She told Mr. Singh to submit a detailed note outlining each complaint against him, specifying the instances of the alleged offence, and providing the grounds for challenging each complaint. The judge posted the case for further hearing on September 26.

Portal launched for registering sexual harassment cases

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched SHe-Box, a centralised portal for registering and monitoring complaints of sexual harassment of women at the workplace.

It serves as a centralised repository of information related to Internal Committees (ICs) and Local Committees (LCs) formed, encompassing both the government and private sectors.

It offers a common platform to file complaints, track their status, and ensure a time-bound processing of complaint by ICs.

APPEAL

Ms. Suji.V spouse of Mr. Vimal 30 years admitted in Christian Medical College is diagnosed to have Takayasu Arteritis Type 1, Severe Aortic Regurgitation and Severe LV Dysfunction (EF-28%). She has been advised to undergo high risk Aortic Valve Replacement + IABP standby at the earliest. The cost of the operation would be around **Rs. 4,70,000**/-.

Please send donation however small and save the girl. Cheque/D.D/M.O favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Suji.V, **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487. State Bank of India, R.A. Puram, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855, you can donate through Google Pay No. **9884607377**, UPI Id: **savepoorlives@oksbi**. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.

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J&K polls: 244 nominations cleared for the first phase

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Out of the 279 nominations filed for the first phase of the Assembly election in Jammu and Kashmir, 244 were found valid and 35 were rejected, the Election of Commission of India (EC) said on Thursday.

The nominations for the first phase, in which 24 constituencies in seven districts are going to the polls, were scrutinised on Wednesday. According to the election notification, candidates can withdraw nominations till August 30, before 3 p.m., at the office of the respective returning officers.

More than 23.27 lakh voters are eligible to exercise their franchise in the first phase scheduled on September 18.

On Thursday, the EC issued the notification for the second phase of the Assembly election for which voting will be held on September 25 in 26 constituencies. Nominations will be accepted till September 5 and will be scrutinised the next day.

Nadda tries to calm tempers in J&K unit ahead of election

A list of candidates for the Assembly polls was released 'precipitately', sparking anger among senior leaders who have not been named, including two Deputy CMs and the State party chief

Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

BJP president J.P. Nadda on Thursday dialled senior leaders of the Jammu and Kashmir unit of the party to calm tempers after several of them were left out of the three candidate lists released by the party for the Assembly election in the Union Territory.

Some leaders, including former Deputy Chief Minister Nirmal Singh, have not been given ticket. Candidates for seats that former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta and even State unit chief Ravinder Raina contested in the past have not been announced yet.

In support: BJP workers protest outside the party office in Jammu after the second and third list of candidates were released. ANI

Rescinded list

On Monday, the BJP released a list of 44 candidates for seats across the three phases of polling, but then rescinded that list as it was "not supposed to be released altogether". This rescinded list gave the first inkling to senior leaders and other aspirants that they would not be included, which led to protests and sloganeering in front of the local office of the BJP in Jammu.

"That list had been released precipitately, before these leaders had been taken into confidence over their being dropped. Which is why the list was withdrawn and then released piecemeal," a senior BJP office-bearer said.

The official list of candidates released by the party so far have largely kept to the "original" rescinded list, with only one change for the Mata Vaishnodevi seat, where Rohit Dubey was replaced by Baldev Raj Sharma.

Building unity

Following this, Mr. Nadda spoke with senior leaders in J&K and tried to calm things down.

Ram Madhav, the newly appointed poll in-charge for J&K, then went on a charm offensive in Jammu, and met with aggrieved aspirants trying to get all the local units together to face the election with a united front.

In 2014, the last time Assembly polls were held in J&K, the BJP won 25 seats in Jammu, and it is the main catchment area for seats for the party. Following the reading down of Article 370 of the Constitution granting special status to Jammu and Kashmir, and making J&K a Union Territory without Ladakh, a new delimitation of Assembly constituencies was done. Now, 43 seats are accorded to Jammu alone, out of the 90 Assembly constituencies.

Polls will be held in three phases, on September 18 and 25 and October 1, with the counting and the announcement of results scheduled for October 4.

EC calls for report on SP plaint on bias in postings

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) has sought a detailed report from the Chief Electoral Officer of Uttar Pradesh on allegations made by the Samajwadi Party (SP) of bias in posting of officials belonging to certain communities ahead of the Assembly byelections in the State.

The SP on Wednesday complained to the commission that the BJP government in Uttar Pradesh was removing police and civil administration officials and booth-level officers from Muslim and Yadav communities from the districts where the byelections will be held.

Sources said that the poll body has sought a detailed report from the CEO, including information on which the BLOs were shifted after the Lok Sabha election, and the reasons for their transfers.

SP leader Ramgopal Yadav told presspersons that Yadav and Muslim communities were known to be party supporters.

INBRIEF

Rahul Gandhi releases the teaser of 'Bharat Dojo Yatra'

Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Thursday shared a martial arts video from one of the Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra campsites along with a teaser – 'Bharat Dojo Yatra is coming soon'. A dojo is a training hall or school for martial arts. "Our goal was to introduce these young minds to the beauty of the 'Gentle Art' a harmonious blend of meditation, Jiu-Jitsu, Aikido, and non-violent conflict resolution techniques," Mr. Gandhi said.

Priyanka criticises U.P. govt.'s new digital media policy

Congress general secretary and former Uttar Pradesh in-charge Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Thursday targeted the Uttar Pradesh government over the State's new digital media policy, which stresses paid promotions, describing it as an attempt at "crushing" democracy. "Will say what you like, if you call day as night, it will be night. In which category will the voices of women seeking justice fall in the social media policy of the Uttar Pradesh government?...," Ms. Gandhi said in post on X.

Jharkhand Police deny spying on Champai Soren

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

Former Jharkhand Mukti Morcha leader Champai Soren on Thursday resigned as MLA and Minister in the Jharkhand Cabinet.

The former Chief Minister had resigned from the JMM on Wednesday. Mr. Champai, who represented the Seraikela seat, is set to join the BJP on Friday.

Chief Minister Hemant Soren recommended Ghatshila JMM MLA Ramdas Soren to be inducted into the Cabinet in his place.

The Jharkhand Police on Thursday issued a press note stating that the two Special Branch officials who were questioned by the Delhi Police for allegedly spying on Mr. Champai were on duty. The police denied any spying attempt.

"Traditionally the team of Special Branch in Delhi and other States has been collecting intelligence on important political, economic and social issues related to Jharkhand. Two sub-inspectors of Jharkhand Police in Delhi got caught in a misunderstanding during their duty. Through some mediums, the news is being circulated that a particular person was being monitored. In fact, both were deputed there for security arrangements. After the facts became clear, both the police officers were released. The matter of spying on someone by the team of the Special Branch is wrong," the statement issued by the Jharkhand Police headquarters media cell read.

Champai Soren

Kangana Ranaut meets Nadda after her remarks on farmers' agitation

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Days after she was reprimanded for her controversial remarks on the farmers' protest, BJP MP Kangana Ranaut met party president J.P. Nadda at his residence in New Delhi on Thursday.

This is the second time that Ms. Ranaut has met the BJP president since she stirred a controversy earlier this week with her disparaging remarks on the farmers' agitation against the now-repealed three farm laws.

Ms. Ranaut had recently posted a clip from an interview to a media house in which she had suggested that a "Bangladesh-like situation" could have erupted in India during the farmers' agitation against the three farm laws (later rolled back) but for the country's strong leadership. She alleged that "bodies were hanging and rapes were taking place during the farmers' protest".

Kangana Ranaut

Ms. Ranaut's comments had drawn criticism from all quarters, including the Opposition Congress and the farmers' union Samyukta Kisan Morcha. The BJP had then released a statement distancing itself from Ms. Ranaut's remarks, adding that she was not authorised to speak on policy issues. She alleged the involvement of China and the U.S. in the "conspiracy", drawing flak from the Opposition parties.

The controversy around Ms. Ranaut's remarks took an unseemly turn on Thursday, with objectionable remarks made against her by former MP and Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD)-Amritsar president Simranjit Singh Mann.

Mr. Mann, 79, made the disparaging remarks when a reporter in Karnal asked him to comment on an interview given by Ms. Ranaut. He said that Ms. Ranaut could comment on "rapes" as she had knowledge of the crime.

Mr. Nadda's meeting with Ms. Ranaut was in the way of reiterating the BJP's view on such remarks, and to ensure that the reprimand would be taken as such and party discipline maintained.

Mr. Mann's statement, however, has added fuel to the controversy, with Ms. Ranaut reacting sharply.
(With PTI inputs)

In House committee, JD(U) MP demands caste census debate

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Parliamentary Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes, in its first meeting called to decide the agenda for the year ahead, has picked "caste census" as one of the subjects that it will be deliberating on, after demand from several Opposition members who were supported by Janata Dal(U) MP Giridhari Yadav.

So far, the BJP ally JD(U), which occupies two berths in the Council of Ministers, has not strongly pushed for it.

According to sources, a list of 30 subjects were placed before the panel during the meeting.

DMK MP T.R. Baalu, was the first person to flag the need for a threadbare debate on caste census. He was backed by Congress MP Manickam Tagore.

It is learnt that Mr. Tagore said the committee must seek an explanation from the Home Ministry on the status of preparations for the long-anticipated decadal census, which will pave way for a caste count too. He was backed by Trinamool Congress MP Kalyan Banerjee.

Giridhari Yadav

The Bihar example

Mr. Yadav, while giving the example of Bihar, where the government carried out a successful count and published the findings, said there is a need to carry out the exercise across the country. The JD(U) MP advocated for the panel to take the issue for in depth evaluation.

Cong. slams BJP over list of rich people in the country

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Thursday said that the "billionaire raj" under the Narendra Modi government was more unequal than the British Raj, referring to the findings of a new list of rich people in the country.

Sharing a news report on the Hurun India Rich List, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh, in a post on X, said, "India has had one billionaire for every five days in 2023, and the non-biological Prime Minister's closest friend is the foremost among them all."

The 2024 Hurun India Rich List announced Gautam Adani as the richest Indian, replacing Mukesh Ambani.

"Modi's Billionaire Raj is more unequal than even the British Raj. But it is also the cornerstone of the government's economic policy-making," Mr. Ramesh added.

A fearless author and lawyer who spoke truth to power

Ziya Us Salam

One of India's finest intellectuals, Abdul Ghafoor Noorani, a renowned Constitutional expert, distinguished lawyer, and political analyst, is no more.

Ailing for a long time, Noorani, or Ghafoor *bhai*, as his friends called him, was laid to rest at a cemetery in Mumbai after Isha prayers. He was 94. Not one to call it quits, he was in the process of putting together a fresh book on the Supreme Court's Babri Masjid verdict, when death snatched him away.

A trained lawyer, he began his writing career in the early 1960s. He wrote long and passionately. Fearless and fair, he spoke truth to power. He called Narendra Modi the "Tughlaq" of our times for his Central Vista project in 2020 just as he had equated Indira Gandhi's actions with those of Adolf Hitler when writing about the Emergency. Likewise, on the jacket of his book, *The RSS: A Menace to India*, he made bold to reproduce Jawaharlal Nehru's quote on the ideological fountainhead of the BJP, writing, "It would appear that the declared objectives [of the RSS] have little to do with the real ones...these real objectives appear completely opposed to the decisions of the Indian Parliament...and the Constitution of India."

An authority on the Kashmir affairs, his views were equally profound on the Ayodhya mosque-temple dispute about which he did three books besides scores of columns over the years. Equally, he could quote any Article of the Constitution with natural ease and often drew parallels with the Constitution of other countries in his writings. He was not a trained historian, but his facts were seldom disputed, and his interpretations widely debated.

ABDUL GHAFOOR NOORANI: 1930-2024

Feared in legal circles and respected on the literary circuit, Noorani was a no-nonsense man who suffered no fools. Equally, he never forgot a good deed. Having written for long for dailies such as *The Statesman* and *The Indian Express* besides *Dawn* in Pakistan, Noorani was a columnist for *The Hindu*'s sister publication, *Frontline*, for a little over three decades before infirmities of advancing years made it increasingly difficult for him to put pen to paper for the widely read column. The column was often a mirror to India's unending battles with its history and politics. Often running to about 3,000 words, when the issue overtook him, he let his pen flow like a river in the mountains. Then he wrote even 5,000 words on the subject.

An old timer, he used to do his column with a pen before getting his written words typed into neat sheets by a stenographer in Mumbai which were then faxed to the magazine's office. His house was a book lover's delight as was his library of newspaper clippings. Painstakingly, he used to first mark the articles of interest in the morning before neatly making the clippings and filing them according to the subject. Over the years, the files got overloaded, but he never once forgot about the placement of a particular file. He never used a writing table and did his writing sitting on his cot, surrounded with hundreds of books, and many cushions. For decades, he didn't use a computer.

Not a great practitioner of field research, he read extensively, and quoted with generosity and accuracy. A devout Muslim who would not entertain visitors during his prayer time, he was a unique mixture of abiding humility and occasional fits of temper. Proud of his membership of the Gymkhana Club in Mumbai and the India International Centre in New Delhi where he used to stay only in room number 38, he had his eccentricities. Once on a flight, he was asked by the cabin attendant about his food preference, and he blurted out, "Anti-veg!" Indeed, he was a lover of food. He would read about food and make mental notes about going to a certain restaurant and even roadside eateries. In Delhi, he would often take a cycle rickshaw to the bylanes of old Delhi looking for a particular *gola kabab* or *qorma*.

Born in Bombay, he spent much of his life in the city where his unique wit, rare intellect and profound knowledge of Constitutional matters made him a man everybody looked up to. Even political leaders like Farooq Abdullah and Asaduddin Owaisi paid their respects to him.

Inform the public of government work, Modi tells Ministers

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in the first full interaction with the Council of Ministers in his third term on Wednesday, deputed Union Ministers Mansukh Mandaviya of the BJP and Rammohan Naidu of the TDP to liaise with ministerial colleagues on their 100-day agenda, and said the public should be informed of government work even while it is taken up.

"Reform, transform, perform, and now inform," was the message that Mr. Modi reportedly gave to the Ministers.

While the first three parts of this message had been spoken about by the Prime Minister on multiple occasions, the part about informing the public is new, possibly reflecting new political realities following the mandate of the Lok Sabha polls.

The Prime Minister said that various avenues of communication need to be tapped on these matters. Apart from deputing Mr. Mandaviya and Mr. Naidu for the 100-day agenda of the government, the meeting saw the outgoing Cabinet Secretary, Rajiv Gauba, making a presentation on the 73 decisions taken by the third Modi government in the first 85 days of its existence.

"We need to talk not just of the work, but also the pace of the work being done," said the Prime Minister.

These meetings with the full Council of Ministers were a regular feature in the last two governments of Mr. Modi.

INBRIEF

Three alleged Naxalites killed in Chhattisgarh's Narayanpur

Three alleged Naxalites were killed in an operation carried out by security forces in Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh, on Thursday (photo shows injured security personnel being airlifted after a similar operation in the district on June 8). While searches were on till late evening, the police said the three deceased were women. When the team reached the place, there was an exchange of fire. Inspector-General of Police (Bastar Range) Sundarraj P. said after the firing stopped and searches were done, bodies of three uniformed women Maoists, .303 rifles, 315 bore guns, a large amount of explosive material, and items of daily use have been recovered.

Body of Bangladesh leader found in Meghalaya plantation

The police in East Jaintia Hills district of Meghalaya found the decomposed body of an Awami League leader from Bangladesh on August 26, officials said on Wednesday. The body was located in an areca nut plantation in the Dona Bhoi area, about 1.5 km inside the India-Bangladesh border. The area is in the Umkiang police station limits. The district's Superintendent of Police, Giri Prasad, told presspersons that Ishaq Ali Khan Panna was identified from a passport found on his body. "The body was taken to the Khliehriat (district headquarters) Civil Hospital for an autopsy and further investigation," he said.

DGCA suspends approval for Jamshedpur flying school

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation on Thursday suspended the approval granted to Alchemist Aviation, a Jamshedpur-based flying training school, after a recent crash of a training aircraft that killed two aboard. "DGCA conducted a special safety audit of Alchemist Aviation Pvt. Ltd. from 23rd to 24th August. During the audit several serious deficiencies and non-compliances of regulatory provisions were found," it said in a statement. The flying school will now have to undergo a recertification process afresh to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. The regulator did not answer questions on the nature of shortcomings found during the audit.

Centre puts out four sets of draft rules under Telecom Act

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on Thursday published four sets of draft rules under the Indian Telecommunications Act, 2023. These rules, when finalised and notified, will replace the subordinate legislation of the Telegraph Act, 1885, which the Telecom Act repealed and replaced last year. Further drafts to enforce other sections of the Act may be forthcoming. Aside from this, recruitment rules for top bureaucratic leadership for the DoT have also been amended in line with the Telecom Act. The rules are open for public comment for a period of 30 days, after which the DoT is likely to finalise and notify them.

Submarine *Arighaat* set to add ballast to nuclear triad

It is India's second nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine; 'technological advancements undertaken indigenously make it significantly more advanced than its predecessor, *Arihant*'

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

INS Arighaat was commissioned into service in Visakhapatnam in the presence of Rajnath Singh. ANI

India's second nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, *INS Arighaat*, was commissioned into service at Visakhapatnam in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday. It joins the first such submarine, *INS Arihant*, which was commissioned in 2016.

"The *Arighaat* will further strengthen India's nuclear triad, enhance nuclear deterrence, establish strategic balance and peace and play a decisive role in the country's security," Mr. Singh said at the induction ceremony.

The technological advancements undertaken indigenously on this submarine make it significantly more advanced than its predecessor, *Arihant*, the Defence Ministry said in a statement. The presence of both *INS Arihant* and *INS Arighaat* will enhance India's capability to deter potential adversaries and safeguard its national interests, it added.

As reported earlier by *The Hindu*, *INS Arihant* was quietly commissioned into service in August 2016. It has a displacement of 6,000 tonnes and is powered by an 83-MW pressurised light-water reactor with enriched uranium. *INS Arighaat* retains the same reactor and dimensions, but has several technological upgrades.

"It has the distinction of having the indigenous systems and equipment which were conceptualised, designed, manufactured and integrated by Indian scientists, industry and Naval personnel," the Ministry statement said.

The completion of the nuclear triad was announced in November 2018, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced on social media that *INS Arihant* had returned from its first deterrence patrol. The advanced technology project began in the 1980s and its first product, *Arihant*, was launched in 2009 by the then Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh, and eventually commissioned in 2016.

The third of these submarines, which is at an advanced stage of construction, is set to be larger and more capable than the current two.

Nuclear deterrence

INS Arihant is armed with a 750-km-range K-15 Submarine Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM), while a 3,500-km-range SLBM K-4 is under development, having been tested for the first time in 2020. The K4 will become the mainstay of India's undersea nuclear deterrence, as it gives the stand-off capability to launch nuclear weapons while submerged in Indian waters.

Union to organise campaign to restart MGNREGS in Bengal

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Workers will donate one rupee each to cover the wage dues unpaid since the scheme was suspended in 2021

In an attempt to "embarrass" the Centre into restarting the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in West Bengal, the workers enrolled with the programme across the country will donate one rupee each to cover the wage dues that have not been paid to those in the State since the scheme was shut down there over corruption complaints in December 2021.

The NREGA Sangarsh Morcha, an umbrella body of workers, is organising the campaign. From next week, the job card holders associated with it will send in handwritten appeals on a postcard to the Prime Minister's Office on the issue.

No fresh budget

Citing ground surveys that revealed large-scale corruption and violation of the guidelines, the Union Rural Development Ministry invoked Section 27 of the employment guarantee Act that allows for "stoppage of release of funds" in case of "improper utilisation" and stopped payment for the scheme in the State. The Centre, at present, owes ₹7,500 crore to the State with wages alone amounting to ₹2,744 crore of the sum. For two years in a row, no fresh budget has been approved for the State.

Morcha convener Anuradha Talwar says the suspension of the scheme is a clear violation of Section 27, which states that "appropriate remedial measures for its proper implementation within a reasonable period of time" has to be taken.

The Trinamool Congress says the BJP has politicised the issue and is withholding the funds to score a political point. The two have sparred over the issue both inside and outside Parliament. The State government started its own programme, Karmashree, which gives up to 50 days of employment. Ms. Talwar said no official or public representative has been held accountable for the "corruption" cases.

IMD warns of cyclone in Saurashtra, Bay of Bengal 'depression'

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

A soldier rescues a boy from flood-affected areas in Gujarat on Thursday. ANI

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has warned that a 'depression' forming over Saurashtra is likely to become a cyclone on Friday.

This will be the first time since 1964 that a land-based depression in August is morphing into a cyclone over the Arabian Sea. The agency said on Thursday it was slowly moving westwards and expected to veer into the Arabian Sea off the Saurashtra and Pakistan coasts and intensify into a cyclone on Friday.

Forecasts expect it to move away from the Indian coast over the next two days. The consequence of this storm is the extremely heavy rainfall reported in Gujarat in the past few days.

A second depression has been formed in the sea in the northern Bay of Bengal. It is expected to move towards north Andhra Pradesh and the adjoining southern Odisha coast and likely to intensify into a 'depression' in 48 hours, the IMD said.

It is unusual for cyclones to form in August and during the monsoon. Cyclones largely occur in the India neighbourhood in May or October and November.

Cong. gave Rahul ₹1.4 cr. for election expenses in Wayanad and Rae Bareli

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Rahul Gandhi had won from both seats, but retained Rae Bareli. AICC

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi who fought the Lok Sabha election from Wayanad in Kerala and Rae Bareli in Uttar Pradesh got ₹1.4 crore, or ₹70 lakh for each constituency, to meet election expenses from the party.

Mr. Gandhi won both seats, but retained Rae Bareli.

The leaders who got ₹70 lakh for their constituencies included Kishori Lal Sharma, who defeated Union Minister Smriti Irani from Amethi, K.C. Venugopal (Alappuzha in Kerala), Manickam Tagore (Virudhunagar in Tamil Nadu), Radhakrishna (Gulbarga in Karnataka) and Vijay Inder Singla (Anandpur Sahib in Punjab), says the Part Expenditure Statement for the Lok Sabha election submitted to the Election Commission by the Congress last month and uploaded on the panel's website.

Those who got more than ₹70 lakh for their constituencies included Vikramaditya Singh, who got ₹87 lakh and lost the election from Mandi in Himachal Pradesh, and Rakibul Hussain, who got ₹75 lakh and won from Dhubri in Assam.

Senior Congress leaders Anand Sharma and Digvijay Singh, both of whom lost the election, got ₹46 lakh and ₹50 lakh, respectively.

The Part Expenditure Statement by the Trinamool Congress shows that the ruling party in West Bengal gave ₹75 lakh each to 48 candidates, while the DMK gave ₹70 lakh each to 22 of its candidates.

The Samajwadi Party gave its chief Akhilesh Yadav ₹60 lakh, while his wife and MP from Mainpuri, Dimple Yadav, got ₹72.15 lakh.

Senior leader Awadesh Prasad who won from Ayodhya got ₹20 lakh.

The Bharatiya Janata Party's statement has not been uploaded so far.

Southampton University to start campus in India

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Thursday issued a Letter of Intent (LoI) to the University of Southampton, United Kingdom, to establish its campus in India, making it the first university to get the LoI under University Grants Commission (UGC) regulations for setting up foreign universities.

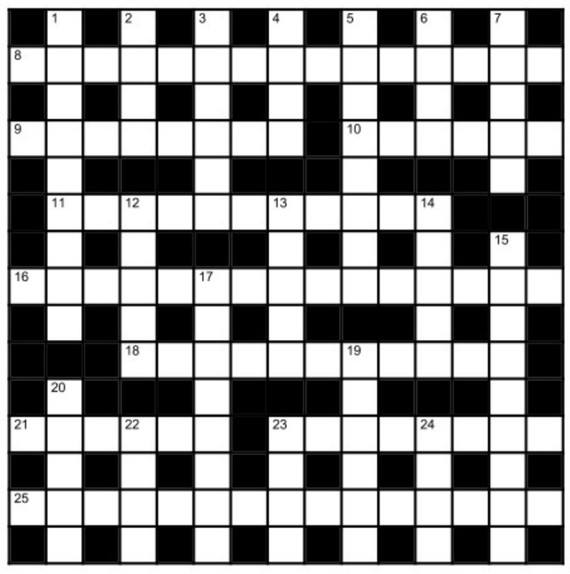
UGC Chairman M. Jagadesh Kumar said the university is expected to start its academic programmes in July 2025 and also that the degrees awarded by the Indian campus will be the same as in the host university. Professor Kumar also said that the setting up of the campus will be beneficial for students in terms of extending course and study opportunities in the country, research, knowledge exchange, enterprise, and engagement.

TH CROSSWORD + 14267

(set by Vidwan)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 We drove the nanny mad occasionally (15)
9 ILO and OPEC's output (5,3)
10 Stale like some cold hate (3-3)
11 Stray behind devil's army, time for enrichment! (11)
16 Be patient! This cannot be an instruction to a male stripper! (4,4,5,2)
18 John's work at emergency room, fill up time! (5,6)
21 Coil space - time for mass (6)
23 Despot's gold going to cold traitor (8)
25 Model has cake mixed with harmful medicine, calms down (15)

Down

1 I've orders, perhaps for repeals (9)
2 Stepped back, right inside circle (4)
3 Completely on to it! Drunk! (2,4)
4 Alpha wolf is partly missing in action? (4)
5 One often turns cold and hot for data transfer systems (8)
6 Spot investigation! No conclusion! (4)
7 Untamed, tortuous fear of first love! (5)
12 Father with fruit (5)
13 Wrongdoing, queen runs with gold (5)
14 Ooh! These words can be smoother! (5)
15 Foreign Office flat-out played foul (9)
17 At length, they covered Western Australia in transit (2,3,3)
19 Extremely enjoyable time at the French base (6)
20 Power of sun? No sun for this cold region! (5)
22 Some manure, also used as animal feed (4)
23 Hurt during stomach exercises (4)
24 Manage company with empty purse (4)

SUDOKU

3	1		4				5	
8		5		2				9
		4	5		3	7		
6					2	5		
				3				
		1	7					3
		3	6		1	9		
1				9		3		5
	8				7		1	6

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

No.SS6266 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

S	P	O	T	O	N		A	S	S	U	A	G	E	S
	I		O		A		W		H		S		Y	
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	C		S		V		S		P		R		S	
M	E	T	T	L	E	S	O	M	E		O	A	T	H
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E	M	P	L	O	Y	E	E		P	L	A	Z	A	S
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A	T	T	E	N	D	E	E		F	O	R	G	E	T

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	6	8	1	7	5	3	9	2
1	7	2	8	3	9	4	5	6
9	5	3	2	6	4	7	1	8
8	2	1	5	4	7	9	6	3
7	3	9	6	8	2	5	4	1
6	4	5	9	1	3	2	8	7
5	1	7	4	2	8	6	3	9
3	8	4	7	9	6	1	2	5
2	9	6	3	5	1	8	7	4

FAITH

The effect of Rama nama

In one of His manifestations, Lord Narayana, after deciding to be born as the son of King Dasaratha, cherished calling Him Rama. The two-letter word is the most divine and powerful. Chanting Rama nama bestows a person with all good qualities. Hanuman, the great devotee of Sri Rama, derived strength, dexterity, courage, and fearlessness by chanting Rama nama.

Smt. Vasuki Manoharan said that wherever Rama nama is chanted, Hanuman is present. People receive the twin blessings of Sri Rama and Sri Hanuman. It is said that chanting Rama nama will help people feel like God is with them during difficult times. The letter "Ra" will destroy the concept of "I," and "Ma" will "extinguish" Mine. Rama nama will grant the divine boon of immortality. Rama's arrow tip hit Vaali's chest deep and sucked his life up. The indefatigable Vaali realised the arrow was powerful because it bore Rama's imprint. Poet Kambar says Rama nama is priceless. The benefit of chanting Rama nama is equal to or even more than witnessing hundreds of temple consecrations (kumbhabhishekas) and pradosha poojas.

While crossing the ocean, only by chanting Rama nama did Hanuman, contracting his body into a speck, come out of the mouth of a monster (who halted him) and continue to go into the sky.

INBRIEF

LIC pays ₹3,662.17 crore dividend to Govt. of India

Life Insurance Corporation of India on Thursday paid a dividend of ₹3,662.17 crore to the Centre. CEO and MD Siddhartha Mohanty presented the cheque to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman towards the Government of India's share of dividend approved by shareholders in the AGM on August 22, LIC said in a release. With the ₹2,441.45 crore interim dividend paid on March 1, the total dividend paid to the Centre for 2023-24 totalled ₹6,103.62 crore, LIC added.

Natco seeks U.S. FDA nod for copy of Novartis' cancer drug

Natco Pharma has submitted to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration an abbreviated new drug application for a generic version of Novartis' cancer drug Tabrecta (capmatinib hydrochloride). Tabrecta, indicated for treatment of adult patients with metastatic non-small cell lung cancer with a specific type of mutation, had $126 million sales in the U.S. for 2023. Natco is seeking approval for generic version of Tabrecta Eq 150 mg base and Eq 200 mg base tablets.

Centre lifts curbs on ethanol production from cane juice

The Centre has lifted restrictions on production of ethanol from sugarcane juice, b-heavy and c-heavy molasses for the next ethanol supply year that begins in November. The Department of Food and Public Distribution and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas will review the diversion for ethanol periodically. The department had restricted ethanol production since last December to ensure the domestic market had adequate supply of sugar.

Moody's, Fitch flag concerns about jobs, private investments

Moody's raises India's 2024 GDP growth forecast by 0.4 percentage point to 7.2% on signs of a revival in rural demand; Fitch retains rating at 'BBB-'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Key risk: Fitch cautions that 'private investment cycle may not materialise due to subdued consumption. THULASI KAKKAT

Moody's Ratings on Thursday raised its India GDP growth forecast for 2024 by 0.4 percentage point to 7.2% citing signs of a revival in rural demand, while Fitch Ratings retained the country's long-term foreign-currency issuer rating at 'BBB-' with a stable outlook, even as it noted that fiscal metrics remained a credit weakness along with governance and GDP per capita trends.

"We have raised our real GDP growth projections for the Indian economy [and] now expect 7.2% real GDP growth in 2024, and 6.6% growth in 2025 versus our earlier estimate of 6.4%," Moody's said in a global update. "These forecast changes assume strong broad-based growth and we recognize potentially higher forecasts if the cyclical momentum, especially for private consumption, gains more traction."

Pointing to signs of a revival in rural demand, Moody's said it expects household consumption to grow as headline inflation eases toward the central bank's 4% target even though it noted that retail inflation's easing to 3.5% in July, was driven by "favourable base effects".

Asserting that the Indian economy was "in a sweet spot, with the mix of solid growth and moderating inflation," Moody's flagged that growth prospects over the medium- and longer-term would, however, "depend on how well the country can productively tap its substantial pool of labour." The extent to which the country ultimately reaped its demographic dividend would depend on the success of government policies for employment generation and skilling, it underlined.

'Credit weakness'

Separately, Fitch Ratings noted that although India's strong medium-term growth outlook and achievement of deficit targets had improved prospects of a modest downtrend in government debt, fiscal metrics still remained a credit weakness as "deficits, debt, and debt service burden" were all high compared to its peers.

"Lagging structural metrics, including governance indicators and GDP per capita, also weigh on the rating," Fitch said.

Retaining its GDP growth estimate for 2024-25 at 7.2%, followed by 6.5% next year, Fitch pegged India's medium-term potential GDP growth at 6.2%, "underpinned by the infrastructure push, strong services sector, and solid private investment outlook".

While healthier bank and corporate balance sheets should pave the way for a positive investment cycle, Fitch said that a key risk was that the 'private investment cycle may not materialise due to subdued consumption, which would weigh on job creation and dampen potential benefits from India's demographic dividend'.

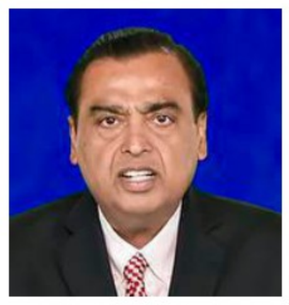
RIL mulls 1:1 bonus issue; eyes ₹75,000 cr. in 'New Energy' spend

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) said its board would meet on September 5 to consider 1:1 bonus issue.

"When Reliance grows, we reward our shareholders handsomely," Mukesh D. Ambani, CMD, told shareholders at the company's Annual General Meeting.

He said with strategic adoption of Deep-Tech and Advance Manufacturing, RIL would be placed in the top-30 league of most valuable companies globally in the near future.



Green fuels, AI-based solutions will become long-term growth engines for RIL, says Ambani.

New Energy unit

Stating RIL was on track to fully commit and invest up to ₹75,000 crore in 'New Energy' business to establish a manufacturing ecosystem, extensively enabled by emerging technologies, including AI, IoT, Machine Learning, and Robotics, he said the firm's complete ownership and automation of the integrated value chains would allow RIL to maximise margins that would be higher than those of stand-alone, non-integrated players.

"Our New Energy business will be the new jewel in Reliance's crown. I foresee it becoming as big and profitable over the next 5-7 years, as our O2C business which we had built over the past 40 years," he said.

"And, I am confident that Green fuels and AI-based solutions will become long-term growth engines for Reliance. Overall, the Reliance Group is well on track to more than double in size before the end of this decade and grow faster in the decades ahead."

On merger of Disney India with the media assets of RIL, Mr. Ambani said, "Just like Jio and retail, our expanded media business will be an invaluable growth centre in the Reliance ecosystem."

Emphasising RIL made the bold promise of bringing the benefits of AI to every Indian, everywhere, he said the company was on track to fulfill that promise.

AI tools

"Jio is developing a comprehensive suite of tools and platforms that span the entire AI lifecycle. We call this Jio Brain," he said.

"By perfecting Jio Brain within Reliance, we will create a powerful AI service platform we can offer to other enterprises as well. With Jio's AI Everywhere For Everyone vision, we are committed to democratising AI, offering powerful AI models and services to everyone in India at the most affordable prices," he added.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	82,135	0.43
US Dollar	83.89	0.09
Gold	74,250	-0.13
Brent oil	79.72	0.94

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	3020.15	-7.85
Adani Ports	1476.05	6.25
Apollo Hosp	6857.20	80.75
Asian Paints	3115.85	-9.65
Axis Bank	1175.40	4.45
Bajaj Auto	10807.85	151.10
Bajaj Finserv	1755.65	42.15
Bajaj Finance	7063.55	163.55
Bharti Airtel	1565.90	9.55
BPCL	356.45	8.30
Britannia Ind	5831.40	128.05
Cipla	1618.55	0.35
Coal India	527.55	1.20
Divis Lab	5012.55	-18.15
Dr Reddys Lab	6931.15	-68.15
Eicher Motors	4915.90	-30.95
Grasim Ind	2676.20	-39.35
HCL Tech	1751.85	32.40
HDFC Bank	1638.55	1.45
HDFC Life	736.90	-5.20
Hero MotoCorp	5374.50	63.10
Hindalco	700.50	-4.55
Hind Unilever	2785.25	20.90
ICICI Bank	1221.90	-1.95
IndusInd Bank	1417.45	1.70
Infosys	1933.35	-5.75
ITC	505.10	7.80
JSW Steel	939.70	-9.55
Kotak Bank	1777.25	-14.05
L&T	3683.45	-5.60
LTIMindtree Ltd.	6132.10	4.55
M&M	2757.60	-40.40
Maruti Suzuki	12453.80	96.30
NestleIndia	2504.55	12.05
NTPC	409.90	0.85
ONGC	329.60	1.80
PowerGrid Corp	333.30	-1.15
Reliance Ind	3041.85	45.25
SBI Life	1843.70	0.00
State Bank	814.50	5.10
Shriram Finance Ltd.	3200.50	-1.35
Sun Pharma	1799.20	-12.65
TataConsumerProduct	1198.45	-2.70
Tata Motors	1121.65	47.10
Tata Steel	152.97	-0.73
TCS	4511.80	5.75
Tech Mahindra	1647.35	20.00
Titan	3533.20	5.70
UltraTech Cement	11222.00	-12.80
Wipro	538.70	4.10

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on August 29

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	83.67	83.99
Euro	92.80	93.16
British Pound	110.24	110.67
Japanese Yen (100)	57.85	58.08
Chinese Yuan	11.79	11.84
Swiss Franc	99.07	99.45
Singapore Dollar	64.28	64.54
Canadian Dollar	62.16	62.40
Malaysian Ringitt	19.39	19.51
Australian Dollar	57.01	57.23

Source:Indian Bank

Adani pips Ambani to become 'richest Indian'

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

Recovering from the dent caused by the Hindenburg Research report, Gautam Adani's networth surged 95% last year to ₹11.6 lakh crore, helping him replace Mukesh Ambani as the richest Indian, Hurun India said on Thursday.

Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani's overall networth rose by 25% to ₹10.14 lakh crore, as per the 2024 Hurun India Rich List.

In the 2023 report, Mr. Adani's wealth declined by 57% to ₹4.74 lakh crore, and Mr. Ambani was way ahead with a fortune of ₹8.08 lakh crore.

SEBI moots UPI-like block mechanism for securities market

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has proposed mandating Qualified Stock Brokers (QSBs) to offer the facility of trading in the secondary market using the UPI-based block mechanism to their clients, similar to the ASBA facility.

Per UPI block facility, clients can trade in the secondary market based on blocked funds in their bank accounts, instead of transferring it upfront to the trading member.

The facility is optional for investors, and not mandatory for Trading Members to offer as a service.

Application Supported by Blocked Amount (ASBA)-like facility is already available for the primary market, which ensures that money from an investor gets moved only when an allotment happens. Also, it was suggested that QSBs offer a '3-in-1 trading account facility' as an alternative to making the ASBA-like facility mandatory.

Adani Enterprises to raise ₹800 cr. via NCD issue

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Adani Enterprises Ltd. has announced its maiden public issue of secured, rated, listed redeemable, non-convertible debentures (NCDs) to raise up to ₹800 crore, including green shoe option of ₹400 crore.

The company is offering up to 80 lakh NCDs each with a face value of ₹1,000.

The issue will open on September 4 and close September 17. The minimum application size will be ₹10,000 and multiples of ₹1,000 thereafter. The proceeds would be primarily used for prepaying or repaying debt and general corporate purposes.

'Monsoon likely to extend, threatening ripe summer crops'

Reuters
MUMBAI

Crop damage could spur food inflation, but rains may raise soil moisture, aiding winter-sown crops

The southwest monsoon is likely to be prolonged into late September this year due to a mid-month low-pressure system, two senior India Meteorological Department (IMD) officials told Reuters.

Above-normal rainfall due to delayed withdrawal of the monsoon could damage India's summer-sown crops like rice, cotton, soybean, corn, and pulses that are harvested from mid-September.

Crop damage could fuel food inflation, but the rains may raise soil moisture, aiding the planting of winter-sown crops like wheat, rapeseed and chickpea.

"There is an increased probability of a low-pressure system developing in the third week of September, which could delay the withdrawal of the monsoon," said an IMD officer asking not to be named.

Any produce loss due to extreme rainfall could force New Delhi to extend export curbs on wheat, rice and sugar.

Gangwal's family trust sells 5.24% in IndiGo worth ₹9,549 crore

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

InterGlobe Aviation promoter Rakesh Gangwal's family trust on Thursday sold a 5.24% stake in the airline for ₹9,549 crore through open market transactions.

The share sale is part of Mr. Gangwal's decision in February 2022 to trim his shareholding after a bitter feud with co-founder Rahul Bhatia over alleged corporate governance issues.

Over 2.02 crore shares of InterGlobe Aviation were sold by the Chinkerpoo Family Trust in three tranches in a price range of ₹4,714.95-4,715.89 per scrip, according to bulk deal data on BSE. This took the combined transaction value to ₹9,548.95 crore. The scrip closed with a discount of 2.06% against the benchmark Sensex ending in the green territory.

InterGlobe Aviation is the parent of no-frills carrier IndiGo, which has a domestic market share of more than 60%.

कार्यालय नगर परिषद झालावाड़ (राज0)

क्रमांक :- न.परि.झा./SBM/2024/3097 दिनांक :- 23/08/2024

ई-निविदा
(Nit No. 04 /2024-25)

नगरपरिषद झालावाड़ द्वारा वित्तिय वर्ष 2024–25 में कार्य विशेष का अनुभव रखने वाले पंजीकृत संवेदको से घर घर कचरा संग्रहण कार्य हेतु निम्नानुसार निविदायें दिनांक 18/09/2024 को दोपहर 3.00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। संवेदक द्वारा निविदा प्रपत्र एवं शर्तों का विवरण वेबसाईट **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in**, **www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** से प्राप्त किये जा सकेंगे।

UBN No :- DLB2425SLOB06196,
NIB Code :-DLB2425A1998

आयुक्त,
नगर परिषद झालावाड़

राज.संवाद/सी/24/4285

CENTRAL POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION OF A.P. LTD., VIJAYAWADA

e-Procurement Tender Notice

Tenders are invited from APCPDCL for procurement of **(i)** 375KMs of 100Sq mm AAA Conductor **(ii)** Various ratios of 11kV CTPT metering sets 10/5A(outdoor) - 247Nos, 20/5A(Outdoor) - 54Nos, 40/5A(Outdoor) - 17Nos, 10/5A(Indoor) - 106Nos, 20/5A(Indoor) - 34Nos, 40/5A(Indoor) - 7 Nos **(iii)** 16SWG DPC Aluminum winding wire - 30868Kgs and 19SWG SE Aluminum winding wire - 17627Kgs through AP e procurement. For further details please visit **https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in.** from 30-08-2024. Ph:**0866-2955455** & Email:**cgmpmm.cpdcl@apcpdcl.in.**

Sd/- Chief General Manager/ P&MM
APCPDCL. Andhra Pradesh

DIPR 3139PP/CL, Dt:29/08/2024

JAIPUR VIDYUT VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED

office:VidyutBhawan, Janpath, Jyoti Nagar, Jaipur 302005
Website: www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jvvnl
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM-I)
MM Building, Old Power House Premises,
Near Ram Mandir, Banipark, Jaipur-302006
Tel. 0141-2208098, E-Mail id:- semm1@jvvnl.org

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING BID

e-tenders are invited for purchase of Hardware fittings for 11 KV 45 KN Disc Insulators (B&S) (TN-4973) (UBN- VVN2425GLOB00427) and 11 KV Roster Switch (TN- 4974) (UBN-VVN2425GLOB00426). All the details regarding tenders are available at web site http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jvvnl and www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.

JPR 2878 (2024)
Raj.samwad/C/24/4377

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM-I)
For Electricity Complaints Toll Free No. 1800 180 6507

Government of Telangana
Department of Mines and Geology

My Home Sarover Plaza, Flat No: 203 &204, 2nd Floor, House No: 5- 922, Shapurwadi, Adarshnagar, Secretariat Road, Hyderabad, Telangana-500063
Website:www.mines.telangana.gov.in
e-mail: dmg-eauction-mines@telangana.gov.in

No. No. 2263906/DM&G-MI/Lst/2023 Date: August 30, 2024

Notice Inviting Tender
"Invitation of bids for grant of Mining Lease for Limestone Mineral"

Government of Telangana in exercise of the powers conferred by Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015, invites tender from the eligible bidders for the e-auction of major minerals in the state.
Eligibility conditions, timelines, terms, and conditions etc. for participating in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document available in electronic form only and can be downloaded from e-auction portal of MSTC Limited **(https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mlcln/login.jsp)**. Interested and eligible bidders can register themselves on the above e-auction portal. The bidders can participate in the bidding only after online purchase of the Tender Document on payment of the Tender fee from the above e-auction portal. Any revision, clarifications, addendum, corrigendum, time extensions, etc. to the tender document will be hosted on the above e-auction portal only and no separate notifications shall be issued in the press.
Model Tender Document and Mineral Block Summaries are available free of cost on the e-auction portal of MSTC Limited website **(https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mlcln/login.jsp)**. The block specific Tender documents are available for purchase on the e-auction portal of MSTC Limited **(https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mlcln/login.jsp)**. The pre-bid conference would be organised in hybrid mode on **Tuesday, 24 September, 2024**. The venue, time and link for virtual mode shall be notified separately on the MSTC portal. Last date for purchase of Tender Document, on the e-auction platform is Monday, October 14, 2024, and the last date for submission of the bid is **Monday, October 21, 2024, on or before 17:00 hours (IST)**. The bidders shall note that financial bids are invited in digital format only and technical bids are invited both in digital and physical format.

List of Mineral Blocks for Auction

Sr. No.	Name of the Block	Mineral	District	#Price of Tender Document
1.	Pasupulabodu block	Limestone	Suryapet	5,00,000
2.	Saidulnama block	Limestone	Suryapet	5,00,000
3.	Sultanpur block	Limestone	Suryapet	5,00,000

#The Price of Tender Document for mineral block is exclusive of GST. GST is payable under Reverse Charge Mechanism.

DIPR No. 371-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT./1/2024-25

The Kerala Minerals & Metals Ltd
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking) Sankaramangalam, Kollam,-691583
Phone : +91-476-2651215 to 217, E-mail : md@kmml.com, URL: www.kmml.com

TENDER NOTICE

For more details, please visit E- Tendering Portal https://etenders.kerala.gov.in.or www.kmml.com

No	E-Tender ID	Items
1.	2024_KMML_685677_1	Acid Resistant Brick lining work of Digesters(K 201 C&E) in IBP
2.	2024_KMML_685670_1	Acid Resistant Brick lining work of Spent acid blow down tank (T401 C) in IBP
3.	2024_KMML_687098_1	For fabrication & supply of Reactor Cooling Tubes
4.	2024_KMML_685640_1	For supply of Flat SS 310-20 x 6 mm

Chavara. 29.08.2024 **Sd/ Managing Director for The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd**

KSEB KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED - Tender Notice

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (COMMERCIAL & TARIFF),
Vydyuthi Bhavanam,Thiruvananthapuram

Inviting short term tender through DEEP portal as per MoP guidelines, for meeting the power deficit from **15th to 30th September 2024, March 2025 & May 2025** and peak hours of **16.00 Hrs to 24.00 Hrs & 00.00.02.00 Hrs of April & May 2025**.
Last Date - **05.09.2024, 02.00 pm,** Visit **www.kseb.in**
Ref : PR/MC1/F338/2024

CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN HOMOEOPATHY
(An Autonomous Body of Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India)
Jawaharlal Nehru Bhartiya Chikitsa Avum Homoeopathy Anusandhan Bhawan
61-65, Institutional Area, Opp. D-Block, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058

Advt. No.: 118/2024-25 **Dated: 29.08.2024**

ENGAGEMENT OF TEACHING/NON-TEACHING STAFF

The National Homoeopathy Research Institute in Mental Health (NHRIMH), **Kottayam (Kerala)** under C.C.R.H. invites applications for engagement of the following categories of staff purely on contract basis:-

S. No.	Name of the post	No. of posts	Consolidated/fixed monthly remuneration (Rs.)
1.	**Clinical Psychologist**	01	**Rs. 50,000/-**
2.	**Occupational Therapist**	01	**Rs. 40,000/-**
3.	**Psychiatric Social Worker**	01	**Rs. 30,000/-**
4.	**Therapy Assistant (Occupational)**	01	**Rs. 30,000/-**
5.	**Junior Hindi Translator**	01	**Rs. 30,000/-**

•See the detailed recruitment rule
The details about place of posting; essential qualification, experience, remuneration, etc. are available on the website of the Council, namely, **www.ccrhindia.nic.in.**

Assistant Director (Admn.)

CSIR - INDIAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY
(Council of Scientific & Industrial Research)
Hyderabad - 500007.

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW NOTIFICATION NO. 10/2024

CSIR-IICT, Hyderabad is conducting Walk-in-Interviews on 10th September, 2024 for the positions of Project Staff having qualifications of MSc in (Chemistry / Microbiology / Biotechnology) / B.Tech in Chemical Engineering / B. Pharm / Graduate degree in any discipline etc.

For full details visit our website **www.iictindia.org**

Sd/-
Controller of Administration

The General Manager Rajasthan State Guest House,
13, Bir, Tikenderjeet Marg.
Chanakyapuri, New Delhi-110021

No.: F.14/R.S.G.H./2024/571 Date: 21.08.2024

Notice Inviting Bid

(1) Bid for Providing the Services of PBX Operator, Computer Operator, Receptionist, Lift Operator and Security Guard on Job Basis at Rajasthan State Guest House situated at 13, Bir Tikenderjeet Marg. Chanakyapuri, New Delhi are invited from 23.08.2024 at 11:00 A.M. till 02.09.2024 at 05:00 P.M. The Bid will open from 03.09.2024 at 12:00 P.M. The tender value is Rs. 77,00,000.00. NIB : GAD2425A0024. UBN : GAD2425SLOB00044.

(2) Bid for Providing the Services of Cook. Waiter and Masalchi on Job Basis at Rajasthan State Guest House situated at 13. Bir Tikenderjeet Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi are invited from 23.08.2024 at 11:00 A.M. till 02.09.2024 at 05:00 P.M. The Bid will open from 03.09.2024 at 12:00 P.M. The tender value is Rs. 92,00,000.00. NIB : GAD2425A0024. UBN : GAD2425SLOB00045.

And other Particulars of the bids may be visited on the procurement portal (https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) of the State.

(Hemant Kant Vinay)
General Manager,
Rajasthan State Guest House,
Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.

DIPR/C/7757/2024

TULKAREM

Death toll rises as Israeli raids in West Bank enter second day

AP

The death toll climbed on Thursday as Israel pressed a large-scale military operation in the occupied West Bank for a second day, despite UN concerns it is "fuelling an already explosive situation". The Army said it killed five militants in Tulkarem, bringing to 16 the overall death toll since the launch of the West Bank operation. AFP

UNITED NATIONS

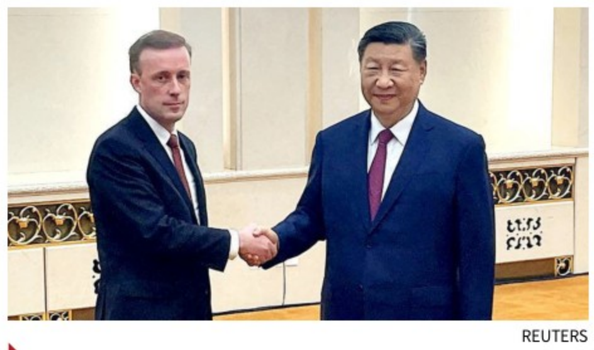
Israel, Hamas agree to three-day pauses for Gaza polio vaccinations

AFP

The Israeli military and Palestinian militant group Hamas have agreed to three separate, zoned three-day pauses in fighting in the Gaza Strip to allow for the vaccination of some 640,000 children against polio, a senior WHO official said on Thursday. The vaccination campaign is due to start on Sunday. REUTERS

BEIJING

China's Xi meets with Jake Sullivan in an attempt to improve relations



REUTERS

Chinese President Xi Jinping met with U.S. national security adviser Jake Sullivan on Thursday in Beijing, on a visit with the stated aim of keeping communications open between the two powers, as the relationship between China and the United States has become increasingly tense in recent years. AP

KYIV

Russia claims two more villages in Donetsk and Luhansk regions

REUTERS

Russia said on Thursday that it took two more east Ukrainian villages — in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions — as its forces continue their advance deeper into the country. The Defence Ministry said Russian forces captured the village of Mykolaivka in Donetsk, as well as Stelmakhivka in Luhansk region. AFP

Gloom prevails in Sri Lanka's hill country

Following decades of marginalisation, Malaiyaha Tamils, who were further hit by economic crisis, see no imminent relief as the country is preparing for election; the govt. has promised to increase daily wage but companies tied it to targets that estate workers say are nearly impossible to meet

Meera Srinivasan
KANDY

"There is little to look forward to in Sri Lanka," says Kathir*, who will board a plane to Dubai later this month for an electrical maintenance job, leaving behind his parents, wife, and two children. "There's no other option," says the 35-year-old, who paid 4 lakhs (roughly ₹1,11,500) to an agent to get on a list of workers seeking employment abroad.

Weeks after his planned departure, Sri Lanka will go to the polls to elect a new President. Citizens will have a say for the first time since the painful economic crash in 2022, when they took to the streets amid acute shortages and long power cuts. The mass uprising booted out former President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who fled the country and resigned.

"How does it matter who comes to power, when our situation remains the same?" he asks dejectedly. Even with two jobs, as an electrician and autorickshaw driver, Kathir struggles to support his family in the central Kandy district, which is teeming with tourists.

The government is targeting more visitors, so the dollars they bring can refill its coffers that ran dry two years ago. Further, it is hoping to boost its foreign exchange earnings from exports and remittances of workers – $5.9 billion in 2023 – who have flown out.

President Ranil Wickremesinghe, who replaced Mr. Gotabaya, is seeking a mandate to take forward his government's economic recovery programme. He unfailingly reminds the electorate that fuel queues have vanished, there is no shortage of gas, and the country is on a path of recovery with the nearly-$3 billion International Monetary Fund package he obtained.

Meanwhile, tens of thousands like Kathir are leaving the country to escape precarity.

Families like his, living in the towns of Sri Lanka's hill country, may still be relatively better off, compared to those working and residing on the tea estates, according to Ponniah Logeswary, of the Kandy-based Human Development Organization. "Their plight is dire," she says.

Poor plight: Women tea estate workers of the Malaiyaha Tamil community in Sri Lanka. MEERA SRINIVASAN

Kandy is one of the three districts in Sri Lanka's scenic Central Province that is home to a sizeable population of Malaiyaha (hill country) Tamils, apart from Sinhalese and Muslims. The Malaiyaha Tamils, whose ancestors were brought down from India by the British to work in plantations two centuries ago, are among Sri Lanka's poorest.

Some 1.5 lakh workers, mostly women, from the million-strong community work on tea and rubber estates across central and southern Sri Lanka. The Wickremesinghe administration promised to increase their daily wage to (Sri Lankan) Rs. 1,700 (about ₹475). After fiercely resisting the wage hike initially, some of the companies grudgingly agreed to the revised rate more recently, but tied it to targets that estate workers say are nearly impossible to meet.

"The promise of a higher wage is a joke, because almost no one gets paid the amount," Ms. Logeswary says. Decades of neglect made the community more vulnerable than most others in Sri Lanka during the island nation's worst economic downturn since Independence. The jolt of the crisis and its enduring aftermath is also severely impacting children's education in the estates, according to Kanchanadevi Kirubakar, a member of the Ceylon Teachers' Union. Parents are increasingly unable to afford school transportation, stationery, or electricity owing to the high costs. Families are forced to skip meals.

Poll pledges

Addressing an election rally at a ground in nearby Digana town last weekend, Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa, who is also running for President, underscored the need to improve digital aids and technology in education and governance. "You may ask how we can afford all this. We will cut all unnecessary state expenses, punish the thieves and weed out corruption," he said loudly as supporters cheered.

While Mr. Premadasa's speech focused mostly on national issues, voters, especially in the hill country, tend to base their judgment on their immediate needs, observes D. Mathiyugarajah, senior political activist and Kandy district organiser of Mr. Premadasa's Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB). "In my experience, voters in the hill country do not always vote for ideology. They vote based on issues that need urgent attention. In that sense, they vote for a promise made by an emissary of a national politician."

Sri Lanka is headed for a national election. While some voters are looking for provincial solutions, even as they navigate the national economic crisis, few voice optimism about any candidate delivering on their demands. There are 38 presidential aspirants contesting this election but many voters in the hill country say they are not spoilt for choice.

*(*name changed upon request)*

Deadly warrior: The Ukrainian Air Force's F-16 fighter jet flies in an undisclosed location in Ukraine. AP

Ukraine F-16 crashes, pilot killed during Russian attack: Kyiv

Reuters
KYIV

An F-16 fighter jet used by Ukraine crashed on Monday, Kyiv's military said, the first such loss reported since the long-awaited arrival of the U.S.-made planes in the country was confirmed this month.

The jet came down and its pilot was killed while it was approaching a target during a Russian air strike, the Ukrainian General Staff said on Thursday in a statement on Facebook.

The F-16s had "demonstrated high efficiency" and downed four Russian cruise missiles, it added. "Connection with one of the aircraft was lost while it was approaching the next target. As it turned out later, the plane crashed, the pilot died," the statement added.

Ukraine has not given detail on the size of its new fleet, though the loss is likely to have left a significant dent. The *Times of London* has cited a source as saying Ukraine had six of the jets.

Monday's crash did not appear to be the result of Russian fire, and possible causes from pilot error to mechanical failure were still being investigated, a U.S. defence official said.

Telegram CEO faces charges of allowing crime on messaging app

Associated Press
PARIS

French authorities handed preliminary charges to Telegram CEO Pavel Durov on Wednesday for allowing alleged criminal activity on his messaging app and barred him from leaving France pending further investigation.

Both free-speech advocates and authoritarian governments have spoken in Mr. Durov's defence since his weekend arrest. The case has also called attention to the challenges of policing illegal activity online, and to the Russia-born Durov's own unusual biography and multiple passports.

Pavel Durov

Mr. Durov was detained Saturday at Le Bourget airport outside Paris as part of a sweeping investigation opened earlier this year, and released earlier on Wednesday after four days of questioning. Investigative judges filed preliminary charges on Wednesday night and ordered him to pay 5 million euros bail and to report to a police station twice a week, according to a statement from the Paris prosecutor's office.

Allegations against Mr. Durov, who is also a French citizen, include that his platform is being used for child sexual abuse material and drug trafficking, and that Telegram refused to share information with investigators when required by law.

Preliminary charges under French law mean magistrates have strong reason to believe a crime was committed but allow more time for further probe.

JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED
(MATERIAL MANAGEMENT & CONTRACT WING) NEW POWER HOUSE,
INDUSTRIAL AREA, JODHPUR-342003 PHONE: (0291) 2742223, FAX: (0291) 2746539

SHORT TERM E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

Short Term E-Procurement Tender is invited for supply of MIP Meter Box Under **TN-2017 (UBN JVV2425GLOB00516).**

Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Earnest Money, Schedule date of tender opening for aforesaid tenders are available on our website at **www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvvnl** and also at **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in.**

Raj.Samwad/C/24/4335 **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM&C)**

बिजली संबंधी शिकायतों के लिए टोल फ्री नम्बर 1800 180 6045

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
CMG, SDSC - SHAR SRIHARIKOTA - 524124

Brief E-TENDER NOTICE : CORRIGENDUM-A

No:SHAR:CMG:CIVIL:MAINT:E-PT-04(A)/24-25 Dt: 29.08.2024

Kindly refer to E-Public Tender-04/24-25 dt 31.07.24 **"Arresting water leakages, OHT near VALF Admin bldg & Construction of room, SHSB & civil renovation works, 6C bldg at SMP & ETF area, SDSC SHAR"** (T/C-24-021, Est. cost ₹ 19.20 Lakhs); **"Misc civil works at FLP, SDSC SHAR"** (T/C-24-023, Est. cost ₹ 15.82 Lakhs). **Sale period extended up to12.09.2024**. Interested tenderers may visit www.isro.gov.in or www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO for details.

Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG/SDSC SHAR

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LTD.
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking)
Victoria Cross Vijeyta Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road, Dehradun-248001
Corporate Identity No. U40109UR2001SGC025867
Tel No. 0135-2762444, Fax No.:0135-2763839, E-mail ID : cgmupcl@yahoo.com, website: www.upcl.org

Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited invites e-tenders **(www.mstcecommerce.com)** for purchase of short term power for the period from Oct-2024 to Dec-2024 (RTC) as per Ministry of Power, Government of India guidelines dated 30-03-2016 and its amendment from time to time against Tender Specification **No.17/CE(COMM)/UPCL-17/2024(RTC)** as detailed below:-

Month	Timings From	Timings To	Quantum of Power (MW)	Minimum Bid Quantity (MW)	Delivery Point
Oct-24	00:00	24:00	150	20	CTU Periphery
Nov-24	00:00	24:00	250	20	
Dec-24	00:00	24:00	250	20	

The timelines for short term procurement/ bid process and activities thereafter are as under:-

Last Date of request for purchase of tender document.	06/09/2024 upto 12:00 hrs.
Last date and time of submission of e-tender document	06/09/2024 upto 17:00 hrs.
Date and time of opening of tender document(Part-1)	09/09/2024 upto 15:00 hrs
Date and time of opening of Initial Price Offer (IPO) & e-Reverse Auction(e-RA).	Shall be intimated through email after conducting of technical evaluation of the tender.
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in the shape of Bank Guarantee should be in favour of Executive Engineer (CM), UPCL, VCV Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road, Dehradun and to be submitted in the office of SE (Commercial), UPCL, VCV Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road,Dehradun	Rs. 30,000/MW/ month of offered capacity
Cost of tender Specification (Demand Draft in favour of) Executive Engineer (CM), UPCL, VCV Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road, Dehradun and: to: be submitted: in the office of SE(Commercial), UPCL, VCV Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road, Dehradun.	Rs. 29,500/- (Rs Twenty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Only) including taxes.

The qualifying requirements for a bidder to bid for this tender are as follows:
1. The bidder must quote not less than 20 MW quantum of power from single source of generation.
2. The quantum of power offered by the bidder shall be firm power for the duration mentioned above.
3. The bidder must submit the details of Bidder Company as per Annexure 'A' of tender specification for consideration of their bid. Bidder shall ensure submission of (General/Technical/ Financial Information for last three years supported by unabridged Annual Financial Statements, assets and liabilities statements and other financial statements duly certified.)
4. If Bidder is a Trader, it should submit a copy of valid Category license or equivalent Trading License issued by CERC/ Appropriate Commnission.
5. If Bidder is a Trader, it should submit a copy. of at least one number executed power purchase agreement or an equivalent arrangement for supply of power/ Letter of intent.
6. The consultancy/Joint Venture firm deputed by UPCL as a consultant shall not be eligible for participating in aforesaid tender.
7. The bidder has to submit a self declaration in Rs. 100/- non judicial stamp paper declaring that the bidder has cleared all his dues/liabilities and has no outstanding net financial liability /net dues towards UPCL on the last date of submission of bid.
8. Power will be scheduled under GNA. If GNA is not available, then power will be scheduled under T-GNA and charge of T-GNA will be borne by buyer. It is also being clarify the delivery point will remain same ie. Uttarakhand State periphery.

UPCL reserve the right to unilaterally reject the bid at any stage of the processing of the tender if any declaration submitted by the bidder is found false/incorrect/misrepresented.

The documents will be issued to the bidders only through e-tender i.e. **(www.mstcecommerce.com)** E-tenders will be received and opened on the dates as mentioned above. In case the above date is holiday, the tenders will be received & opened on the next working day at same time. The undersigned reserves the right to refuse to issue the tender documents to any applicant and also to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof and no claim on this account. shall be acceptable. **The tenders received after the date & time mentioned above shall not be considered.** Bid will be submitted on **(www.mstcecommerce.com)** only and hard copy of technical bid will also be submitted to the office of SE (Commercial), UPCL. All other details and terms & conditions are available in tender document. For any assistance on E-tendering, please contact on telephone number 011-23217850.

No.: 416/EE(CM)/UPCL/A-2 Dated : 28.08.2024 **Chief Engineer (Commercial)**

"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION. Use LED Bulb, Save Electricity. (Toll Free No. 1912) Pay Electricity Bill Online 24x7 from www.upcl.org. (For information on Electricity theft, informer may report to Toll Free No. 1800 180 4185/Fax No. 0135-2760911)

Hong Kong media outlet, editors 'guilty of sedition'

Agence France-Presse
HONG KONG

The verdict is part of a crackdown on free speech that has seen China critics jailed or forced into exile

Hong Kong pro-democracy news outlet *Stand News* and its two former chief editors were found guilty of sedition on Thursday, the first conviction of its kind since the city came under Chinese rule in 1997.

The verdict is part of a crackdown on free speech in the former British colony that has seen critics of China jailed or forced into exile, following huge pro-democracy protests in 2019.

Editors Chung Pui-kuen, 54, and Patrick Lam, 36, are the first journalists to be convicted of sedition since Britain handed Hong Kong over to China in 1997, and the ruling drew resounding international condemnation.

Mr. Chung and Mr. Lam were in charge of *Stand News*, a Chinese-language website that gained a massive following during the protests in 2019. On Thursday, the court said the pair were guilty of "conspiracy to publish and reproduce seditious publications".

The judge granted the duo bail before their sentencing on September 26.

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road,
Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383. Website: www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/PMC/EPTND-EP-08/0977/2024-25 Date: 29.08.2024

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR PROVIDING PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY SERVICES
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB is inviting tender under Quality Based Consultancy System (QCBS) as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Consulting Firms under two cover system for the following work **(1)** Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Formation of Industrial Layout Including Construction of 18m Wide Road including Asphalting, RCC Side Drains, RCC Cross Drainage Works, HDPE Dual Water Supply Pipe Line etc., at Sector-1 in Nandur Kesartagi 3rd Phase Industrial Area, Kalaburgi Taluk & District. **(2)** Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Formation of Industrial Layout Including Construction of 18m wide road including Asphalting, RCC Side Drains, RCC Cross Drainage Works, OHT, Sump, Raising main, Borewell RWH & HDPE Dual Water Supply Pipe Line at Sector-3, Nandur Kesartagi 3rd Phase Industrial Area, Kalaburgi Taluk & District.

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **18.09.2024 upto 04:00 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer - 2

DIPR/CP/JA/1732/2024-25

KICKING THINGS OFF

Groot wins the first gold medal of the 2024 Paris Paralympics

GETTY IMAGES

Track cyclist Caroline Groot of the Netherlands won the first gold medal of the Paralympic Games on Thursday. Groot finished on top in the final of the C4 and C5 classifications in the 500-metre time trial in women's track cycling. It was the first medal event of the Games that opened with a spectacular ceremony on Wednesday.

BACK IN ACTION

'Emotional' return for Britain's wheelchair basketball captain Pratt

GETTY IMAGES

Great Britain men's wheelchair basketball captain Philip Pratt said his return to Paralympics was "very emotional" after missing the Tokyo Games for mental health reasons. The 30-year-old, who won bronze in 2016, chose to rule himself out of the 2020 Games in order to focus on his mental health and spend time with his dying grandfather.

COPING MECHANISM

Azarenka dons sunglasses for interview after battling migraine

AP

Victoria Azarenka overcame migraine as well as opponent Clara Burel to reach the US Open third round, ending her testing evening by donning sunglasses to conduct an on-court TV interview. Azarenka had to have her blood pressure taken in the second set. She buried her head into her towel and wept before composing herself.

33 AND COUNTING

Root notches up record-equalling ton against SL in the second Test

GETTY IMAGES

Joe Root hit 143 for his 33rd hundred, tying with Alastair Cook's tally for most Test tons for England, as the host reached 358 for seven against Sri Lanka on the first day of the second Test at Lord's. **The scores:** England 358/7 in 88 overs (Duckett 40, Root 143, Atkinson 74 batting) vs. Sri Lanka. **Toss:** Sri Lanka.

Sheetal sizzles, qualifies for the round of 16

The armless archer eclipses the ranking round world record of 698 with a score of 703; Indian shuttlers make a strong start; cyclist Gaderiya finishes 10th, makes an early exit

PARIS 2024

Press Trust of India
PARIS

India's armless archer Sheetal Devi finished second in the women's individual compound open ranking round to directly make the round of 16 at the Paralympics on Thursday.

The 17-year-old, who shoots with her legs, scored a total of 703 points out of possible 720 to finish second behind Oznur Girdi Cure of Turkey, who set a ranking round world record of 704 points.

The top-four finishers in the ranking round, including Sheetal, got byes from the round of 32 and they will feature in the round of 16 on Saturday.

Sarita, the other Indian in the fray, finished ninth with a score of 682 and will face Abdul Jalil Nur Jannaton of Malaysia in the round of 32 on Friday.

In the men's individual recurve open ranking round, Tokyo Paralympics bronze medallist Harvinder Singh finished ninth with a score of 637. He will face Tseng Lung-Hui of Taiwan in the round of 32 on September 4. In the individual compound open ranking round, Rakesh Kumar and Shyam Sundar Swami finished fifth and 15th with scores of 696 and 688.

In women's individual recurve open ranking round, Pooja finished seventh with a score of 585.

In cycling, Jyoti Gaderiya bowed out of the women's C1-3 3000m individual pursuit event after finishing 10th and last in the qualifying round.

Indian para-shuttlers, including Tokyo silver medallist Suhas Yathiraj, made a strong start with eight singles players securing victories in their respective opening group matches on Thursday.

In the SL4 category, Suhas, Sukant Kadam and Tarun won their opening matches. Nitesh Kumar (SL3), Palak Kohli (SL4), Thulasimathi Murugesan (SU5), Manisha Ramadass (SU5), and Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan (SH6) also cleared the first hurdle.

Superb show: Sheetal advanced with a fantastic display on Thursday. GETTY IMAGES

THE GOLDIES

Caroline Groot (Ned): *Cycling Track: Women's C4-5 500m*
Zhangyu Li (Chn): *Cycling Track: Men's C1 3000m Individual Pursuit*
Xiaomei Wang (Chn): *Cycling Track: Women's C1-3 3000m Individual Pursuit*
Tristan Bangma (Ned): *Cycling Track: Men's B 4000m Individual Pursuit*
Didier Ugo (Fra): *Men's 400m Freestyle-S9*
Zsofia Konkoly (Hun): *Women's 400m Freestyle-S9*
Kamil Otowski (Pol): *Men's 100m Backstroke-S1*
Gabriel Geraldo dos Santos Araujo (Bra): *Men's 100m Backstroke-S2*
Pin Xiu Yip (Sgp): *Women's 100m Backstroke-S2*
Alexander Hillhouse (Den): *Men's 100m Butterfly-S1*
Poppy Maskill (GBr): *Women's 100m Butterfly-S14*
Takayuki Suzuki (Jpn): *Men's 50m Breaststroke- SB3*
Yuyan Jiang (Chn): *Women's 50m Freestyle-S6*
Thomas Gallagher (Aus): *Men's 50m Freestyle-S10*
Yi Chen (Chn): *Women's 50m Freestyle-S10*
Ihar Boki (NPA): *Men's 100m Butterfly-S13*

Sinner sails through; Djokovic racks up 90th US Open win

Agence France-Presse
NEW YORK

World No. 1 Jannik Sinner, aiming to add the US Open title to the Australian Open crown he won in January, breezed into the third round on Thursday with a 6-4, 6-0, 6-2 victory over Alex Michelsen.

Italy's Sinner needed just an hour and 39 minutes to get past the 49th-ranked Michelsen, giving himself a match point with a crisp forehand winner down the line and polishing it off with a crosscourt forehand volley.

He'll next play Australian wild card Christopher O'Connell as he aims to stay on course for a semifinal showdown with Carlos Alcaraz, the 2022 US Open champion who won both the French Open and Wimbledon this year.

O'Connell advanced with a 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 victory over Italian qualifier Mattia Bellucci.

On Wednesday, defending champion Novak Djokovic racked up his 90th win at the US Open by defeating Serb compatriot Laslo Djere who retired in the third set of their second round clash.

Djokovic was leading 6-4, 6-4, 2-0 when Djere called it quits.

The World 109, who pushed his countryman to five sets in New York last year, had required a medical time-out to treat an injury just before dropping the second set.

The 37-year-old Djokovic had himself required a visit from the trainer for what appeared to be a side strain after sealing the first set.

Djokovic is now the only man to have won 90 matches at all four Grand Slams.

N. Sriram Balaji and his Argentine partner Guido Andreozzi overcame a one-set deficit to beat New Zealand's Marcus Daniell and Mexico's Miguel Reyes-Varela 5-7, 6-1, 7-6(10) in a close doubles contest.

Short work: Sinner needed just an hour and 39 minutes to get past Michelsen. AFP

IMPORTANT RESULTS

Men: Second round: 30-Arnaldi (Ita) bt Safiullin (Rus) 6-2, 6-4, 6-4; Machac (Cze) bt 16-Korda (USA) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; Thompson (Aus) bt 7-Hurkacz (Pol) 7-6(2), 6-1, 7-5; 1-Sinner (Ita) bt Michelsen (USA) 6-4, 6-0, 6-2; O'Connell (Aus) bt Bellucci (Ita) 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3. Etcheverry (Arg) bt 29-Cerundolo (Arg) 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, 1-6, 6-3; 20-Tiafoe (USA) bt Shevchenko (Rus) 6-4, 6-1, 1-0, retd.; 4-Zverev (Ger) bt Muller (Fra) 6-4, 7-6(5), 6-1; 28-Popyrin (Aus) bt Martinez (Esp) 6-2, 6-4, 6-0; Comesana (Arg) bt 17-Humbert (Fra) 5-7, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4; 6-Rublev (Rus) bt Rinderknech (Fra) 4-6, 5-7, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2; 13-Shelton (USA) bt Bautista Agut (Esp) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 18-Musetti (Ita) bt Kecmanovic (Srb) 3-6, 6-4, 6-4, 2-6, 7-5; 12-Fritz (USA) bt Berrettini (Ita) 6-3, 7-6(1), 6-1; 8-Ruud (Nor) bt Monfils (Fra) 6-4, 6-2, 2-6, 7-6(3); 2-Djokovic (Srb) bt Djere (Srb) 6-4, 6-4, 2-0, w/o.

Doubles: First round: Andreozzi (Arg) & Sriram Balaji (Ind) bt Reyes-Varela (Mex) & Daniell (NZ) 5-7, 6-1, 7-6(10).

Women: Second round: 15-Kalinskaya (Rus) bt Bondar (Hun) 6-2, 6-4; 30-Putintseva (Kaz) bt Wang (Chn) 6-1, 7-6(4); 5-Paolini (Ita) bt Pliskova (Cze) 0-0, retd.; Bouzas Maneiro (Esp) bt 31-Boulter (Gbr) 7-5, 7-5; Krueger (USA) bt 21-Mirra Andreeva (Rus) 6-1, 6-4. 7-Zheng (Chn) bt Erika Andreeva (Rus) 6-7(3), 6-1, 6-2; 19-Kostyuk (Ukr) bt Dart (GBr) 7-6(10), 6-1; 2-Sabalenka (Blr) bt Bronzetti (Ita) 6-3, 6-1; 29-Alexandrova (Rus) bt Jovic (USA) 4-6, 6-4, 7-5; 13-Navarro (USA) bt Rus (Ned) 6-1, 6-1; 24-Vekic (Cro) bt Minnen (Bel) 7-5, 6-1; 20-Azarenka (Blr) bt Burel (Fra) 6-1, 6-4; 3-Gauff (USA) bt Maria (Ger) 6-4, 6-0; 27-Svitolina (Ukr) bt Kalinina (Ukr) 6-1, 6-2; Stearns (USA) bt 12-Kasatkina (Rus) 6-1, 7-6(3).

Fallen seeds
Men: 7-Hurkacz, 16-Korda, 29-Cerundolo, 17-Humbert
Women: 21-Mirra Andreeva, 31-Boulter, 12-Kasatkina

Real to face Dortmund and Liverpool

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Agence France-Presse
MONACO

Holder Real Madrid will face Liverpool away and host Borussia Dortmund in a repeat of last season's final in the league stage of the new-look Champions League, the draw for which took place on Thursday.

Every team will play eight games against eight different opponents in the new format of Europe's elite club competition, with all 36 clubs now pooled together into one league rather than split into groups.

Madrid will also play AC Milan at home and will go to Atalanta.

Liverpool will also meet Milan and take on tournament debutant Girona apart from hosting German champion Bayer Leverkusen.

Manchester City, winner in 2023, will play at home to Italian champion Inter Milan and go to both Paris Saint-Germain and Juventus.

Other standout head-to-heads will include Bayern Munich against both PSG and Barcelona, and Arsenal against Inter and Paris.

At the end of the group phase the top eight in the 36-team classification will advance directly to the last 16.

Those ranked between ninth and 24th place will go through to play a play-off round from which will emerge the remaining eight sides advancing to the last 16.

Clinical Smashers prove too good for Patriots

UTT

Amol Karhadkar
CHENNAI

Jeet Chandra swept past S.F.R. Snehit in a battle of India's NextGen paddlers as Bengaluru Smashers continued its red-hot form to move closer to a knockout berth after crushing debutant Jaipur Patriots 11-4 in a Season 5 contest of the Ultimate Table Tennis league on Thursday.

Jeet's 3-0 win ensured that the reverse Smashers suffered in mixed doubles – Cho Seung-min was the difference between the sides – did not hurt them.

With Manika Batra winning two golden points against Suthasini Sawettabut in the final rubber, Smashers completed the rout.

Eight points clear

The resounding win pulled Smashers (32 points) eight points clear of the second-placed Ahmedabad SG Pipers at the top of the table.

Jeet, who had made an impressive UTT debut midway through the 2023 edition, justified the faith the Bengaluru team has shown in him by negating Snehit's powerful forehands; equally impressive was the manner in which he covered the table with his forehand.

With Jeet handing Smashers an unassailable 8-4 advantage, Manika played freely against a familiar rival in Suthasini. On the golden point in the decider, the Indian produced a perfect twiddle – flipping her otherwise preferred long-pimpled rubber with the plain rubber midway through the rally – and played a backhand counter that turned out to be too quick for Suthasini.

Lily Zhang, the American sensation, was also in fine form and proved too good for Nithyasree Mani. However, the day's most entertaining clash was between southpaws Alvaro Robles and Seung-min.

Despite both players producing strong forehands, it was the lanky Spaniard who set the ball rolling for Smashers. The Bengaluru outfit sustained the momentum before Manika provided a perfect finish.

Meanwhile, a viral infection forced the promising Pritha Vartikar of Ahmedabad SG Pipers to pull out of the league. She was replaced by Krittwika Sinha Roy.

Pritha returns home

Pritha had been suffering from the infection since last week and had to return home to Pune.

The UTT authorities allowed the Ahmedabad franchise to sign Krittwika – Goa Challengers captain Harmeet Desai's wife – as Pritha's replacement as she had travelled to Chennai.

The league accepted the replacement request on Wednesday and Krittwika formally joined the squad the same day. Ahmedabad's next clash is against Smashers on Saturday.

The results: PBG Bengaluru Smashers bt Jaipur Patriots 11-4 (Alvaro Robles bt Cho Seung-min 11-6, 11-7, 10-11; Lily Zhang bt Nithyashree Mani 11-5, 11-10, 11-5; A. Amalraj & Zhang lost to Cho & Nithyashree 7-11, 9-11, 9-11; Jeet Chandra bt S.F.R. Snehit 11-8, 11-9, 11-6; Manika Batra bt Suthasini Sawettabut 11-10, 11-4, 11-10).

Paying back: Jeet gave his Bengaluru teammates a lot to cheer about with a win over Snehit. R. RAGU

All you need to know about Chennai's night street race

MOTORSPORTS

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

With less than 48 hours to go before racing cars vroom around the streets of Chennai in the second round of the Indian Racing Festival, the mechanics and engineers were busy working on the cars in the temporary paddock at the Island Grounds on Thursday.

The 3.5-km Chennai Formula Racing Circuit, with 19 corners, goes around the Island Grounds with the start-finish straight on the beach road. However, most of the track consists of long straights interconnected with chicanes, and the layout lends itself to cars going flat out on the straights, reaching very high speeds that should thrill the audiences.

Lap times are expected to be quick, with the average around 90 seconds for F4, and the IRL cars could be faster by a couple of seconds.

The F4 championship uses a Mygale F4 Gen 2 car powered by an Alpine 1.3-litre turbocharged engine prepared by Oreca. These open-wheel and open-cockpit cars can reach a top speed of 210 kmph on the straights.

The IRL, meanwhile, uses Wolf Racing Cars (Wolf Thunder GB08) with an Aprilia RSV4 1.0 engine that can reach a top speed of 240 kmph. Unlike the F4 cars, the IRL cars are closed-wheels.

While the long straights allow the drivers to take the cars to the limit, even a tiny mistake can prove costly since street courses don't have a lot of run-off areas.

The drivers need to be aware of the barriers, and the challenge will be how they thread the needle between finding the limit without going over it even by a millimetre.

Getting ready: Technicians give the race cars a once-over prior to this weekend's races. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

INBRIEF

Atletico held by Espanyol in a goalless encounter

Atletico Madrid couldn't find the net from 25 attempts and had two goals disallowed in the second half of a 0-0 draw at home against promoted Espanyol in the Spanish league on Wednesday.

The results: Athletic Bilbao 1 (Prados 44) bt Valencia 0; Valladolid 0 drew with Leganes 0; Atletico Madrid 0 drew with Espanyol 0; Real Sociedad 1 (Mendez 32) lost to Alaves 2 (Villalibre 45+5-pen, Martinez 77).

Firouzja is king; Pragg and Gukesh tie for fifth

French Grandmaster Alireza Firouzja drew his final game with India's R. Praggnanandhaa to emerge the champion of the Sinquefield Cup and also win the Grand Chess Tour 2024 in Saint Louis (USA). Winning three and drawing the remaining six games, Firouzja remained undefeated throughout the event. Pragg and D. Gukesh finished tied for the fifth spot.

Top athletes to miss the 63rd National Open championships

The cream of India's athletics fraternity will miss the 63rd National Open athletics championships that gets underway in Bengaluru on Friday. Coming just after the conclusion of the Paris Olympics, and at a time when the best of the under-20 talent is away in Lima (Peru) for the World athletics under-20 event, the competition, in all probability, will be a subdued affair. Of the very few notable names in the entry list are long jump specialists Nayana James and Ancy Sojan, sprinters Amlan Borgohain and Srabani Nanda, hurdler Vithya Ramraj, high jumper Abhinaya Shetty and 20k race walker Priyanka Goswami.

Shannon Gabriel retires from international cricket

West Indies fast bowler Shannon Gabriel has quit international cricket with immediate effect, the 36-year-old said on social media. Since his West Indies debut in 2012, the right-arm quick played 59 Tests, 25 ODIs and two T20Is finishing with 202 wickets across the three formats. His last appearance for West Indies was in a Test against India in Port of Spain last year.

Kush Maini completes second F1 test at Imola

Kush Maini, India's sole representative in Formula 2 series, has completed his second Formula 1 test at Italy's Imola circuit as a member of Alpine's junior driver program. He had driven Alpine's 2022 car for the first time at Red Bull Ring in June. The two-day test at Imola saw Maini behind the wheel of the Alpine A522, the 2022 season race car. Maini was a part of a two-day testing event for the Alpine team alongside Jack Doohan, who recently secured a promotion to Formula 1. This latest test comes at a crucial time, as the team's reserve driver spot opened up earlier last week, presenting a significant opportunity for Maini. Representing Invicta in Formula 2, Maini will return to action at Monza over the weekend.

Reason to smile: Sai Kishore, who picked up five wickets, obliges fans with selfies. M. PERIASAMY

TNCA XI continues to call the shots

Mumbai team chases an improbable 510 for outright victory and needs a miracle to achieve it; Sai Kishore finishes with a five-for

BUCHI BABU

Sankar Narayanan E.H.
COIMBATORE

TNCA XI piled on the misery for Mumbai, dismissing the visitors for 156 in the first innings before going on to score 286 in its second essay on day three of the Buchi Babu tournament at the Sri Ramakrishna College Cricket Ground here on Thursday.

Chasing an improbable target of 510, Mumbai was six for no loss at stumps.

The home team has one foot in the semifinals, with three points all but sealed from this match (first-innings lead).

Mumbai captain Sarfaraz Khan, who could not bat due to illness on day two, came in at No. 10 alongside Divyansh Saxena (70, 199b, 8x4, 1x6).

However, Sai Kishore accounted for them both in no time, completing his five-wicket haul in the process.

There was no respite for Mumbai as the host chose to bat again and had a mammoth 142-run opening wicket partnership between S.R. Athish (57, 113b, 8x4) and S. Lokeshwar (73, 126b, 8x4).

Despite tweakers Shams Mulani (four for 73) and Tanush Kotian's (five for 91) inspired show, Mumbai never got the upper hand as the damage was done in the first innings itself.

Suryakumar Yadav – who had bowled the final over before lunch – did not field in the later part of the innings after suffering a blow to his hand while fielding in the slips in the second session.

Miracles do happen in sport and Mumbai will need just that for a win and a place in the next stage.

The scores (round three, day three):

At Coimbatore: TNCA XI 379 & 286 in 79.2 overs (Athish 57, Lokeshwar 73, Mokit 52, Mulani 4/73, Kotian 5/91) vs Mumbai 156 in 63.2 overs (Divyansh 70, Sai Kishore 5/36) & 6/0 in two overs.

At Salem: Gujarat 371 & 58 in 31 overs (M. Siddharth 8/21) lost to TNCA President's XI 211 & 220/5 in 38.4 overs (C. Andre Siddarth 115 n.o., Siddharth Desai 4/87); **Points: TNCA President's XI 6 (9), Gujarat 0 (0).**

At Tirunelveli: Madhya Pradesh 207 & 124 in 47 overs (Shubham Kushwah 44, Aniketh Reddy 5/46) lost to Hyderabad 560/6 decl. in 129.3 overs (Hima Teja 50, Varun Goud 63 n.o., Rahul Radesh 44, T. Ravi Teja 54 n.o.). **Points: Hyderabad 7 (13); MP 0 (0).**

At Dindigul: Baroda 327 & 9/0 in 2 overs vs Chhattisgarh 427 in 136.5 overs (Anuj Tiwari 114, Amandeep Khare 66, Gagandeep Singh 77 n.o.).

Siddharth and Siddarth deliver semifinal berth for TNCA President's XI

The standouts: TNCA President's XI skipper Siddharth set the ball rolling with his incisive eight-for while Andre Siddarth earned himself a player-of-the-match award with his batting. E. LAKSHMI NARAYANAN

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
SALEM

Skipper and left-arm spinner M. Siddharth scripted a turnaround win for TNCA President's XI.

His eight for 21 helped his team bowl out Gujarat for 58 and chase down a 219-run target with five wickets to spare on day three of the Group-B match in the third round of the Buchi Babu cricket tournament at the Salem Cricket Foundation (SCF) ground on Thursday.

By virtue of this win, TNCA President's XI topped its group to qualify for the semifinals.

Siddharth picked up six wickets on the day. He finished with a match haul of 14 for 97.

The pitch initially seemed a spinner's delight, with the ball turning, bouncing, and at times keeping low. The batters had to bat with the caution of navigating a minefield. Often, they seemed to genuinely but deludedly think that the front-foot block would block out all the discomfort in the world.

Thus, it allowed Siddharth and his fellow left-arm spinner P. Vignesh to use the arm-ball to trap three unsuspecting batters plumb in front.

Urvil Patel tried otherwise and looked to counter-attack, but missed his slog sweep on the second ball he faced to be bowled by Siddharth. TNCA batters, seemingly having sensed that playing positively was the best approach on the wicket, attacked in the chase.

Player-of-the-match C. Andre Siddarth, who'd hit an unbeaten 55 in TNCA's first innings, slammed an unbeaten 115 (94b, 15x4, 4x6).

He hit back-to-back sixes off Rinkesh Vaghela's off-spin – a pull to deep midwicket, and a down-the-track hit to long off.

He produced the winning shot too – a slog sweep off left-arm spinner Siddharth Desai to deep midwicket for a six.

Blasters to meet Mystics in the first semifinal

MAHARAJA TROPHY

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru Blasters will take on Gulbarga Mystics in the first semifinal of the Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 tournament at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium on Friday.

Sealing top spot
Blasters sealed top spot (15 points) on Thursday after their match against Mangalore Dragons was abandoned without a ball being bowled because of incessant rain.

Weather relents
The weather relented for the second tie of the evening as Mystics beat Hubli Tigers by four wickets.

But the result had no bearing on the top-four placings.

In the second semifinal, Mysore Warriors will take on Hubli Tigers on Saturday.

The scores:
Hubli Tigers 179/7 in 20 overs (Mohammed Taha 35, K.L. Shrijith 100 n.o., Monish Reddy 4/32) lost to Gulbarga Mystics 183/6 in 19.1 overs (V. Vyshak 51, Ritesh Bhatkal 35 n.o., Praveen Dubey 34 n.o.).

LIVE TELECAST

Paralympics: DD Sports & JioCinema, 1.30 p.m. onwards

England vs Sri Lanka: 2nd Test, day 2, Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 3.30 p.m.

KSCA Maharaja T20 Trophy: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & FanCode, 7 p.m.

Tennis: US Open, Sony Sports Ten 2, 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 8.30 p.m. & 4.30 a.m. (Saturday)

Bundesliga: Sony LIV, 12 a.m. (Saturday)

Serie A: gxr.world, 12.15 a.m. (Saturday)

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

Dhruv stars for Bangalore Zone

Dhruv Vasu's six-wicket haul (6/66) helped Bangalore Zone secure the first-innings lead over Combined City XI in a drawn KSCA U-19 inter-zonal tournament match.

The scores:
Bangalore 289 in 80 overs (Pranav R. Babu 117, S. Daivik 42, Dhruv Vasu 35) & 100/6 in 30 overs (S. Vinay Radha 35 n.o., Kushal Srinivas Gowda 3/22) drew with Combined City XI 240 in 51.5 overs (Aryan Mawa 46, Rehan Mohammed 86, M.B. Shivam 74, Dhruv Vasu 6/66).
Bangalore City XI 266 in 80.3 overs (Yashas Vihaan 37, Mayur Reddy 58, D.S. Bhushan 31, Sean Pratyush Cyril 25, V. Nabhas 30 n.o., Nihal Mukesh Makwana 3/63, Samyak Vellalore 3/43) & 120/6 in 28 overs (Mayur Reddy 35, Eesa Hakeem Puthige 30 n.o., M. Malatesh 4/45) drew with Vice President's XI 240 in 68.2 overs (Atharv Malviya 56, B. Krithin 27, M. Malatesh 53, Eesa Hakeem Puthige 4/51, K.M. Pruthvi 3/52).
Mysore 355 in 89 overs (Praneeth Shetty 44, Roshan Raju 123, Krish Kedia 49, V. Swayam Raje Urs 46 n.o.) drew with Shivamogga 128 in 52.5 overs (Yashas V. Murthy 36, S. Shivaprasad 44, Krish Kedia 3/35) & 136/4 in 34.2 overs (Yashas V. Murthy 69, M. Tanmay 44).
Secretary's XI 455/5 in 90 overs (S. Manjunath 166, S. Vajra 34, A. Siddharth 116, K.P. Aryan 31, Gaurov Shanbhag 54 n.o.) drew with Mangalore 313 in 75.4 overs (S. Gagan Rao 29, R.R. Rohan 25, Rishab B. Nayak 70, Supreeth Kumar 44, Nikhil Aithal 88 n.o., Aditya Navalgund 3/52, S. Vajra 3/38).
Dharwad 312 in 83 overs (Akash G. Kulkarni 43, Manikanth Shivanand 153, Siddesh A. Asalkar 32, Siddhanth Navale 4/54) drew with Raichur 208 in 84.4 overs (Vivek Naik 78, Sanmay Rudrawadi 54, Sanket Shetty 4/40, Siddesh A. Asalkar 3/40).
President's XI 278 in 82.2 overs (Arnavv Sharma 42, Akshath Prabhakar 89, Aadesh Urs 44, K.A. Tejas 45 n.o., N.S. Manoj 5/60) & 180/3 decl. in 29.1 overs (Arnavv Sharma 29, Karan Sharma 91, Siddhant Pathak 53 n.o.) drew with Tumkur 155 in 63 overs (G.S. Raiyan Malik 28, Akhilesh Chavan 41 n.o., K.A. Tejas 3/23).

Cricket selection trials

Open trials will be held on September 8 at the KSCA B-ground inside Chinnaswamy Stadium to pick three or four teams to participate in the selection matches (senior women) during the second/third week of September.
Those interested are requested to report at 8 a.m. in cricketing attire with a photocopy of their date of birth certificate. Those born on or before Aug. 31, 2008 are eligible.

Abhinav and Deshna corner glory

Abhinav K. Murthy and Deshna M. Vanshika emerged the under-19 boys' and girls' champions at the State-ranking table tennis tournament in Belagavi.

The results:
Boys: Abhinav K. Murthy bt V.G. Vibhas 7-11, 11-9, 11-9, 11-5, 11-8.
Girls: Deshna M. Vanshika bt Himanshi Chowdhary 11-9, 11-9, 11-2, 11-3.

Akaash maintains lead

Akaash Ashok Kumar, with a total pinfall of 2544, maintained his lead at the end of the second round of the Karnataka State-ranking tenpin bowling tournament being held here.
R. Kishan (2402) held on to second position while Surendra Babu (2340) and Surjeet Singh (2267) were in third and fourth.
Among women, Hitasha Sisodiya topped the table with a total pinfall of 2007, and was followed by J. Preemal (1986), Judy Alban (1962) and R. Chethana (1947).

Chouhan beats Srikanth, makes the last-16 stage

SNOOKER

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Mahendra Chouhan outclassed fellow Indian Srikanth Gadda 61-17, 78-7, 70-51 in the first knockout round of the IBSF World under-21 men's snooker at KSBA here on Thursday. Chouhan made a 53 break in the third frame to finish the match.

Aarav Sancheti, Rahul Williams and K. Vibhas were the other Indians to enter the last-16. Christian Richter was edged out by Iran's Shahin Sabzi.

The results: Mahendra Chouhan bt Srikanth Gadda 61-17, 78-7, 70-51; Shahin Sabzi (Iri) bt Christian Richter (Ger) 42-66, 0-78, 68-9, 64-26, 85-32; Aarav Sancheti bt Tathya Sachdev 59-70, 43-36, 64-27, 85-22.
Rahul Williams bt Sky Chan (HK) 27-79, 58-23, 75-56, 29-62, 71-24; Kwan Chun Wong (HK) bt Sham Alwin 75-11, 79-25, 80-8; K. Vibhas bt Mohamed Musarraf (SL) 64-45, 82-10, 67-39.

Dyf well prepared to thwart the challenge from three others in the Bangalore St. Leger on the final day

BENGALURU: Dyf, who has been well tuned, is expected to score in the Bangalore St. Leger (2,800m), the chief event of the concluding days races to be held here on Friday (Aug 30). There will be no false rails.

1 CHAMPION TRAINER CUP (DIV. II), (1,200m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 12-05 p.m.: 1. Carter (4) S. Saqlain 56, 2. Power Of Beauty (3) Antony 56, 3. Aquastic (2) Suraj 54.5, 4. Bowen (1) Rayan 54.5, 5. Femme Fatale (9) Sai Kiran 54.5, 6. Ladylion (8) Arvind K 54.5, 7. Live The Dream (5) Akshay K 54.5, 8. Loveisgod (7) J. Chinoy 54.5 and 9. Rocking Girl (6) S.K. Paswan 54.5.
1. AQUASTIC, 2. LIVE THE DREAM, 3. CARTER

2 LEADING STUD CUP (DIV. II), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 12-30: 1. Memorable Time (3) Koshi K 60.5, 2. Southern Power (9) Akshay K 59.5, 3. Altamonte (2) Jagadeesh 56.5, 4. Peridot (8) B.R. Kumar 54, 5. Lady Invictus (6) S.K. Paswan 52.5, 6. Quick Witted (5) Shreyas S 52, 7. Akasi (4) Arvind K 51.5, 8. Benzema (1) Vinod Shinde 50.5 and 9. Sand Castles (7) Saddam H 50.5.
1. SOUTHERN POWER, 2. PERIDOT, 3. QUICK WITTED

3 SAYONARA TROPHY (1,200m), 00 to 25, 1-00: 1. Springsteen (6) S.J. Moulin 62.5, 2. Baltimore (7) Inayat 62, 3. Princess Jasmine (13) Faizan Khan 61, 4. Alacero (1) G. Vivek 60.5, 5. Walvis Bay (8) B.R. Kumar 60, 6. Emeraldo (12) R. Pradeep 59.5, 7. Estefania (11) Antony 59, 8. Flying Brave (14) Md. Aliyar 58.5, 9. Meghann (4) Sai Kiran 58.5, 10. My Solitaire (10) Arvind K 58.5, 11. Recreator (9) R. Girish 58.5, 12. Quevega (3) M. Rajesh K 57.5, 13. Tankinika (5) Salman Khan 57 and 14. Burning Arrow (2) P. Siddaraju 53.5.
1. SPRINGSTEEN, 2. BALTIMORE, 3. ALACERO

4 YOUNGSTERS TROPHY (1,400m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 1-30: 1. Bestidentification (6) Sai Kiran 56, 2. Complete Package (7) Antony 56, 3. Dr Ash (3) Salman Khan 56, 4. Forever Royal (8) A. Ramu 56, 5. Mescalito (2) Shreyas S 56, 6. Mister Brown (5) B.R. Kumar 56, 7. Noble Cause (4) D. Patel 56, 8. Assimilate (9) S.J. Moulin 54.5 and 9. Martha (1) G. Vivek 54.5.
1. ASSIMILATE, 2. MESCALITO, 3. BESTIDENTIFICATION

5 CHAMPION JOCKEY CUP (DIV. I), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 2-00: 1. La Mcqueen (5) Antony 61.5, 2. River Of Gold (2) H. Chandragiri 60.5, 3. Treasure Chest (7) Tousif 60, 4. Rightly Noble (6) Koshi K 58, 5. Super Sapphire (12) M. Chandrashekar 58, 6. Instructor (9) Sai Kiran 57.5, 7. Super Kind (10) R. Pradeep 57.5, 8. Spirit Dancer (4) Rayan 57, 9. Red Falcon (3) B.R. Kumar 56.5, 10. Monterio (11) Akshay K 56, 11. Gismo (8) Saddam H 54 and 12. Queen Of Kings (1) Vinod Shinde 53.5.
1. RED FALCON, 2. MONTERIO, 3. INSTRUCTOR

6 LEADING STUD CUP (DIV. I), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 2-30: 1. Breeze Bluster (8) Faizan Khan 62, 2. Star Comet (9) Koshi K 62, 3. Millbrook (7) Jagadeesh 61, 4. Measure Of Time (6) Rayan 59.5, 5. Agera (5) Darshan 58, 6. Southernaristocrat (3) Inayat 57.5, 7. Ancient History (1) Akshay K 55, 8. Glow In The Dark (2) A. Ramu 55 and 9. Dawn Rising (4) Salman Khan 53.5.
1. ANCIENT HISTORY, 2. MILLBROOK, 3. STAR COMET

7 CHAMPION TRAINER CUP (DIV. I), (1,200m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 3-00: 1. Defence Counsel (3) Tousif 56, 2. Dhanteras (2) Sai Kiran 56, 3. Mayne Magic (5) Shreyas S 56, 4. Win Win (6) S.J. Moulin 56, 5. Carat Love (9) J. Chinoy 54.5, 6. Days Date (7) L.A. Rozario 54.5, 7. Jully (4) G. Vivek 54.5, 8. Martino (8) Arvind K 54.5 and 9. Mehra (1) Antony 54.5.
1. MEHRA, 2. MARTINO, 3. DAYS DATE

8 LEADING OWNER CUP (1,100m), rated 40 to 65, 5-y-o & over, 3-30: 1. Indian Blues (2) Suraj 60.5, 2. Maple Leaf (8) Rayan 59.5, 3. Macron (10) Akshay K 57.5, 4. Born Dancer (9) Sai Kiran 56.5, 5. Golden Time (4) Faizan Khan 55.5, 6. The Perfect Choice (1) R. Pradeep 54.5, 7. Star Admiral (5) Koshi K 54, 8. Knotty Patton (3) Jagadeesh 52, 9. Remontoir (7) Shreyas S 52 and 10. Thewhisperquietly (6) S.K. Paswan 51.5.
1. MACRON, 2. INDIAN BLUES, 3. THE PERFECT CHOICE

9 BANGALORE ST. LEGER (2,800m), 4-y-o & over, (Terms), 4-00: 1. Dyf (4) Akshay K 58.5, 2. Supernatural (1) G. Vivek 58.5, 3. Trevalius (3) S. Saqlain 58.5 and 4. Lionel (2) Antony 57.
1. DYF, 2. SUPERNATURAL

10 CIVIL SERVICE CUP (1,400m), rated 60 to 85, 4-30: 1. Prana (6) Suraj 62, 2. Shubankar (4) J. Chinoy 62, 3. Peyo (5) H. Chandragiri 59.5, 4. Philosophy (1) Antony 58.5, 5. Galahad (8) Akshay K 58, 6. Vivaldo (3) G. Vivek 55.5, 7. Stellantis (7) S.J. Moulin 54.5 and 8. Grizzly (2) Sai Kiran 51.
1. PRANA, 2. GALAHAD, 3. VIVALDO

11 RAJA OF BOBBILI MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 5-00: 1. Aralina (8) Antony 61, 2. Crosswater (1) S.J. Moulin 59.5, 3. King Of War (7) M. Naveen 58.5, 4. Disruptor (12) Darshan 58, 5. Bourbonaire (6) Suraj 57, 6. Victoria Doresaani (4) L.A. Rozario 56.5, 7. Zuri (11) G. Vivek 55, 8. Ashwa Vedha (10) P. Siddaraju 54.5, 9. The Athabasca (3) Sai Kiran 54.5, 10. Armory (9) M. Rajesh K 53.5, 11. Aircraft (2) Salman Khan 53 and 12. Lex Luthor (5) Koshi K 53.
1. ARALINA, 2. ZURI, 3. BOURBONAIRE

12 CHAMPION JOCKEY CUP (DIV. II), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 5-30: 1. Isabelle (9) Abhishek Matre 60, 2. El Asesino (2) Shreyas S 59.5, 3. High Speed Dive (3) Sai Kiran 59.5, 4. Majesticmerlin (11) Faizan Khan 59, 5. Pursuit Of Wealth (7) R. Pradeep 59, 6. Stentorian (10) M. Prabhakaran 59, 7. Joyful Spirit (5) M. Naveen 58, 8. Anzac Parade (4) Rayan 57.5, 9. Sling Shot (1) R. Girish 57.5, 10. Schafenberg (6) Saddam H 56.5 and 11. Debonair (8) Afsar 56.
1. ISABELLE, 2. EL ASESINO, 3. HIGH SPEED DIVE

Day's best: SPRINGSTEEN
Double: MEHRA – MACRON
Jkt: 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12; Tr (i): 4, 5 and 6; (ii): 7, 8 and 9; (iii): 10, 11 and 12.